

Moscow orders republics to restore order

MOSCOW (AP) — The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet called on the leaders of Azerbaijan and Armenia Wednesday to restore order in the troubled Caucasus region and to protect the interests of all ethnic groups there. A strongly worded statement issued at the end of a special session on national problems in the region said the crisis had inflicted harm on the people of both republics and attempts to put pressure on the Soviet state would not be tolerated. The Presidium ordered the Soviet council of ministers to "work out all measures directed at deciding the immediate economic and social-cultural development of the Nagorno-Karabakh autonomous region." The meeting, which included Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and other top leaders, called on Armenian and Azerbaijani officials to bring to "strict accountability" those who with their actions destabilized the situation. That statement appeared to indicate authorities would take action not only against those who have been arrested for violence in ethnic rioting, but also Armenian activists. Armenians held a series of large protests in February to demand that Nagorno-Karabakh be annexed from neighbouring Azerbaijan. Related story on page 8

Jordan Times

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Regent visits army unit

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday visited a unit of the Third Royal Armoured Division. The Regent watched various exercises performed by the unit. Prince Hassan visited the unit, which is named after him, as part of its celebrations on the occasion of his birthday.

Arab team meets Genscher

ALGIERS (AP) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher met Wednesday with Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahimi and Arab League Secretary General Chadi Kili to discuss the situation in the Israeli-occupied territories, official sources said. At the request of the Arab committee of seven, Arab League representatives are meeting with permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. The talks with Genscher, who also serves as president of the European Community's Council of Ministers, were the latest in a series. The Arab committee of seven includes Algeria, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Genscher arrived in Algeria Wednesday morning.

U.S., Egypt agree to closer arms ties

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States and Egypt have agreed on closer cooperation in arms development, raising Cairo to the same military partnership with Washington as Israel and NATO allies, Pentagon officials said Wednesday. The officials said Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci and visiting Egyptian Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala were to sign a memorandum of understanding.

Senior French official visiting Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — A senior official of French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's Rally for the Republic (RPR) Party said Wednesday he was in Damascus to exchange views with Syrian officials. Jacques Cosciusko-Morizet, RPR national secretary for international relations, said he could not comment on speculation in Paris that his trip was a prelude to the release of French hostages in Lebanon.

U.S. to recall troops

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States plans to begin removing 3,200 U.S. troops from Honduras next Sunday or Monday after they complete joint exercises with Honduran forces, Reagan administration officials said Wednesday.

EC-GCC set to sign accord

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) began talks Wednesday which could lead to a free trade pact between the two blocs, EC officials said. Negotiators from the community and the six states of the GCC were expected to conclude Thursday an agreement on stepping up scientific, industrial and political cooperation.

Nigeria beats Algeria

RABAT (R) — Nigeria beat Algeria 9-8 in a semi-final of the Africa Nations Cup after extra time and penalties Wednesday. The score was 1-1 after extra time (half time 1-0 for Nigeria). Scorers: Nigeria — Abderrazak Belgherbi (Algeria own goal) 39th minute. Algeria — Rachid Maatir (86th).

Israel confiscates journalists' film

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli officials said Wednesday that film confiscated from journalists after a Palestinian shot dead an Israeli soldier Sunday was needed for an investigation, Israel Radio reported. The statement from the office of the state prosecutor was in response to a high court interim order forbidding the army from developing the film.

OIC rallies behind S. Arabia against Israeli threats

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Islamic World rallied behind Saudi Arabia Wednesday in support of the kingdom against Israeli threats over the acquisition of intermediate-range missiles and voiced the readiness of Muslim countries to defend Saudi Arabia.

The foreign ministers of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), declared any attempt by Israel to violate international conventions by attacking Saudi Arabia.

A statement issued by the foreign ministers was very similar in wording to earlier declarations by OIC Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada — and by Jordan and Syria, which said they would consider any attack on Saudi Arabia to be an attack on them.

Pirzada said earlier Wednesday: "I am sending a cable to King Fahd supporting his Muslim kingdom and our Saudi brothers against the Israeli threats."

Pirzada said the OIC members would support the Saudis "morally and, if necessary, militarily." Saudi Arabia recently acquired Chinese CSS-2 missiles, which have a range of 3,500 kilometres.

They are capable of being fitted with nuclear warheads, but the Saudis have denied that this will be done.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Tuesday that Israel and the United States were "making efforts to deal with" what he called the "grave development." He did not elaborate.

In Cairo, an official source said Egypt backed Saudi Arabia against any Israeli threat. The national Middle East News Agency (MENA) quoted the source as saying Egypt condemned recent threats from Israel against Saudi Arabia.

"Egypt reiterates that it considers any aggression against our sister Saudi Arabia an aggression against itself that should be strongly confronted," the source said. "The aggressor must bear responsibility for this aggression."

Sharaa says Syrian reply to American Mideast peace plan will be questions

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Syria Wednesday appeared to be signalling a change in its earlier rejection of the new American proposal for

peace in the Middle East and leaving the door open for modifications in the plan by saying that it's reply to the plan will be presented in the form of "questions."

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Sharaa said Syria was

willing to accept any "realistic peace initiative" which would be compatible with Arab consensus and would guarantee the Palestinian people's rights to self-determination and statehood.

Sharaa, speaking to reporters in an informal press conference at the residence of the Syrian ambassador to Jordan, said such peace should come only through an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The new American peace plan, presented to the leaders of Jordan, Syria, Egypt and Israel by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, provides for an international conference but states that the international powers attending it will not have any arbitration powers. Sharaa did not elaborate on what he meant by a "realistic" initiative but it was apparent that he was reiterating the Syrian demand that the Security Council members would have arbitration powers in the proposed international conference, and that any settlement should be based on Israeli withdrawal to its pre-1967 borders and realisation of the Palestinian people's right to statehood.

Sharaa pointed out that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who has voiced vehement opposition to the Shultz plan, had not accepted the concept of an international conference. "Shamir has not accepted the idea," Sharaa said. "And (Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres) is only thinking of it as an umbrella for

(Continued on page 5)

Turkish-Cypriot leader says U.N. plan is 'bottom line'

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A United Nations plan unveiled in March 1986 for a settlement to the Cypriot problem remains the "bottom line" that the breakaway Turkish republic of northern Cyprus will accept, a senior Turkish-Cypriot leader said Monday.

Dr. Kenan Atakol, foreign minister and defence minister of the breakaway republic which is recognised only by Turkey, said the U.N. proposal for a "bi-communal, bi-zonal republic under one federal government" was the only solution that the Turkish Cypriots would agree to as the basis for a settlement to the conflict between the Turkish-Cypriots and Greek-Cypriots which led to the creation of the Turkish-Cypriot republic in 1983. Atakol, who is in Amman lead-

ing a three-member delegation as observers to the 17th conference of Islamic foreign ministers, says that chances for arriving at a settlement between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots "are practically nil."

According to Atakol, the Greek Cypriots are only singling out elements in the U.N. peace plan for implementation while the Turkish Cypriots insist that the proposal is "an integrated whole and not subject to any modification or dismemberment."

Atakol asserted the Cypriot Akel (communist) party and the Edek (socialist) party which supported new president George Vassiliou in the elections, do not want a settlement to the conflict — at least not along the lines that would be acceptable to the Turkish Cypriots.

(Continued on page 5)

Israeli jets raid Sidon; 15 killed or injured

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — Israeli jets raided Palestinian targets in southern Lebanon five times Wednesday, killing or wounding at least 15 people, police said.

Police said four planes fired at least 25 rockets and dropped time bombs over the hilltop villages of Abra, Bramiyeh, Shakhbali and Majdalayoun near Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

Security sources quoted by Reuters said the five consecutive air strikes within one hour targeted Palestinian bases of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and the Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC).

The planes also blasted Lebanese positions of the Ta'weed movement, led by Saeed Shaaban, as well as the Popular Liberation Army (PLA) which controls security in Sidon.

The sources said at least 15 Palestinians were killed or wounded in the attack, the third since March 12 and the fourth on Lebanese territory this year.

"They staged their fifth air raid as people gathered to rescue casualties from the previous strikes," one witness told Reuters.

Police said the pilots released air balloons to deflect heat-seeking SAM-7 missiles unleashed by resistance fighters.

Dozens of panic-stricken civilians from nearby villages fled to Sidon as the jets circled for at least an hour before heading back to Israel over the Mediterranean.

At least 22 Palestinians and Lebanese were killed in previous air strikes this year.

Missile hits Baghdad; 'tanker war' drags on

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iran lobbed a long-range missile into the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, Wednesday as the two belligerent "war of the cities" and "tanker war" dragged on, claiming more civilian lives.

The missile, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported, crashed at 7:30 (0430 GMT) in a residential neighbourhood "killing and wounding civilians and destroying property."

The agency did not give an exact casualty count. It had acknowledged that Iraqi gunners fired a similar projectile into Tehran Tuesday.

Iranian gunboats set a Cypriot cargo ship ablaze in the Strait of Hormuz Wednesday, the 40th victim of the Gulf shipping war this year, regional shipping sources reported.

There was no immediate word of casualties as tugs raced through the gathering dusk to the burning 34,346-tonne bulk carrier

King calls on Pakistan to resume efforts to end Iran-Iraq conflict

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein has called on Pakistan to resume its efforts to end the 7½-year-old Iran-Iraq war and continue its international contacts aimed at finding a just and comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Speaking at a dinner hosted by President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq and his wife Tuesday night, the King also paid tribute to Pakistan's pan-Islamic efforts and its support for Arab causes.

Following are major excerpts from the King's speech:

"Under Your Excellency's leadership, Pakistan has demonstrated its adherence to the Islamic

(Continued on page 5)

Egypt forwards draft on Gulf war

AMMAN (J.T.) — Egypt's Foreign Minister Ismat Abdul Meguid said Wednesday that Egypt, along with several other Arab countries, has forwarded to the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) foreign ministers meeting a draft resolution on the Iran-Iraq war with a view to reach a stand that would allow for initiating peace negotiations between the warring parties. Citing the "positive Iraqi stand" on the various peace calls, Abdul Meguid said Cairo supported the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598. Meguid, who is heading his country's delegation to the meetings, told a press conference that only the U.N. had the right to reshuffle the order of the resolution. He was referring to Iran's demand that the resolution's order be changed before accepting it. Meguid said he hoped "the image would be clear in a day or two as to the proposed draft resolution Egypt had made." The Egyptian minister praised the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and drew a parallel between the uprising and the 1973 Arab-Israeli war in terms of its impact on the region. "The uprising has imposed itself on the region and its outcome has crystallised in new political moves," he said.



His Majesty King Hussein with Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq in Islamabad (Petra photo)

Hundreds held in Israel's new anti-uprising mass arrest drive

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops Wednesday detained hundreds of Arabs in a massive arrest campaign aimed at ending the 15-week-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza amid reports that the Zionist state was also considering extending military reserve duty to step up its effort to contain the anti-occupation revolt.

Attorney Mohammad Shadid of Tulkarem, counsel for several Palestinians accused of "security" offences and participation in anti-

Israeli demonstrations, was himself jailed without trial Wednesday, Israel Radio said.

Qalqilya residents told Reuters correspondent Jeffrey Bartholet their town had been under curfew for more than a week and the army cut off electricity and water Tuesday.

The Haaretz newspaper reported that 300 of the 700 Palestinians arrested in the past week would be jailed without trial for six months.

Rabin told a parliamentary committee Tuesday that Israel

was holding 3,000 Palestinians but Palestinian sources said the figure was grossly underestimated.

"They are turning any space, any army facility they can find into a prison camp," one Palestinian source said.

"They are by no means just going after known political activists. They are taking people at random from the streets. Young men go out and simply don't come back and their mothers have no idea what has happened to them."

In the Gaza Strip, Israeli troops shot and wounded a Palestinian protester in the Jabaliya refugee camp, Shifa hospital officials said.

Another Palestinian from the Deir Al Balah refugee camp was in serious condition with beating injuries to his head, hospital officials said.

Reserve duty

Israel also said Wednesday it was considering extending military reserve duty on a voluntary basis to help quash the uprising.

"There is such a plan... to enroll reservists for longer periods as enlisted men. No decision has been taken but it is being actively considered," an army spokesman told Reuters.

He said that if the plan was approved, the army would ask reservists to volunteer for paid service in the occupied territories for periods of three to six months.

Financial 'loss'

New figures showed Monday Israel lost \$312.5 million as a result of the uprising.

Israel's 10-member inner cabinet was to meet later in the day to hear a report from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on his talks in the United States.

Gad Yacobi, minister of economy, revealed that the uprising had cost Israel 500 million shekels, about \$312 million, in lost production, exports and added "security" costs, spokeswoman Naama Henig said

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Overwhelming U.N. vote censures U.S. over PLO

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies)

The General Assembly voted Wednesday overwhelmingly to condemn a U.S. move to shut down the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission at the United Nations, and PLO lawyers prepared to fight the U.S. move in court.

The assembly, in its second emergency session on the PLO, voted 148 to 2 to reject the U.S. action. The resolution also called on the United States to abide by the international U.N. headquarters treaty, which allows U.N. missions to operate in New York.

The United States and Israel voted against the resolution, the third of its kind in three months.

U.S. Ambassador Herbert Okun, the deputy permanent representative, said the U.S. Justice Department was obliged by law to enforce "anti-terrorist" legislation, which would close the mission.

But Okun said the United States would take no further steps to close the mission until a court has

ruled on the U.S. lawsuit, which was filed Tuesday in U.S. district court in Manhattan.

The PLO accused the United States Tuesday of engaging in "financial terrorism" by seeking a court order to close the mission and force the PLO to transfer its bank funds out of the United States.

"The only asset we have in this country is the building we live in. Maybe they want me to live on the street, but this would not be the first time the Palestinians become refugees," said Zehdi Labib Terzi, chief of the PLO mission.

Terzi has said that if the PLO mission is closed, he will have to be dragged away from the mission. If forced to move, he has said it will be to the United Nations on international territory, out of reach of U.S. marshals.

In 1973, PLO leader Yasser Arafat spent a night at the United Nations because he could not stay on U.S. territory.

Superpower summit set for May 29

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will hold their fourth summit from May 29 to June 2 in Moscow, Reagan announced Wednesday.

"We can announce that it has been agreed that the Moscow summit will be from May 29 to June 2," Reagan said during a brief appearance in the White House Rose Garden with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Reagan and Gorbachev, who met previously in Geneva, Reykjavik and last December, in Washington, have said they would like to sign in Moscow a sweeping treaty halving superpower strategic nuclear weapons.

Asked if such an accord could be finished by May, Reagan told reporters: "I have no way to answer that now."

But he said the two superpowers were seeking the

"We have set the date and now we shall take care of good substance, of good content, for the summit," Shevardnadze said.

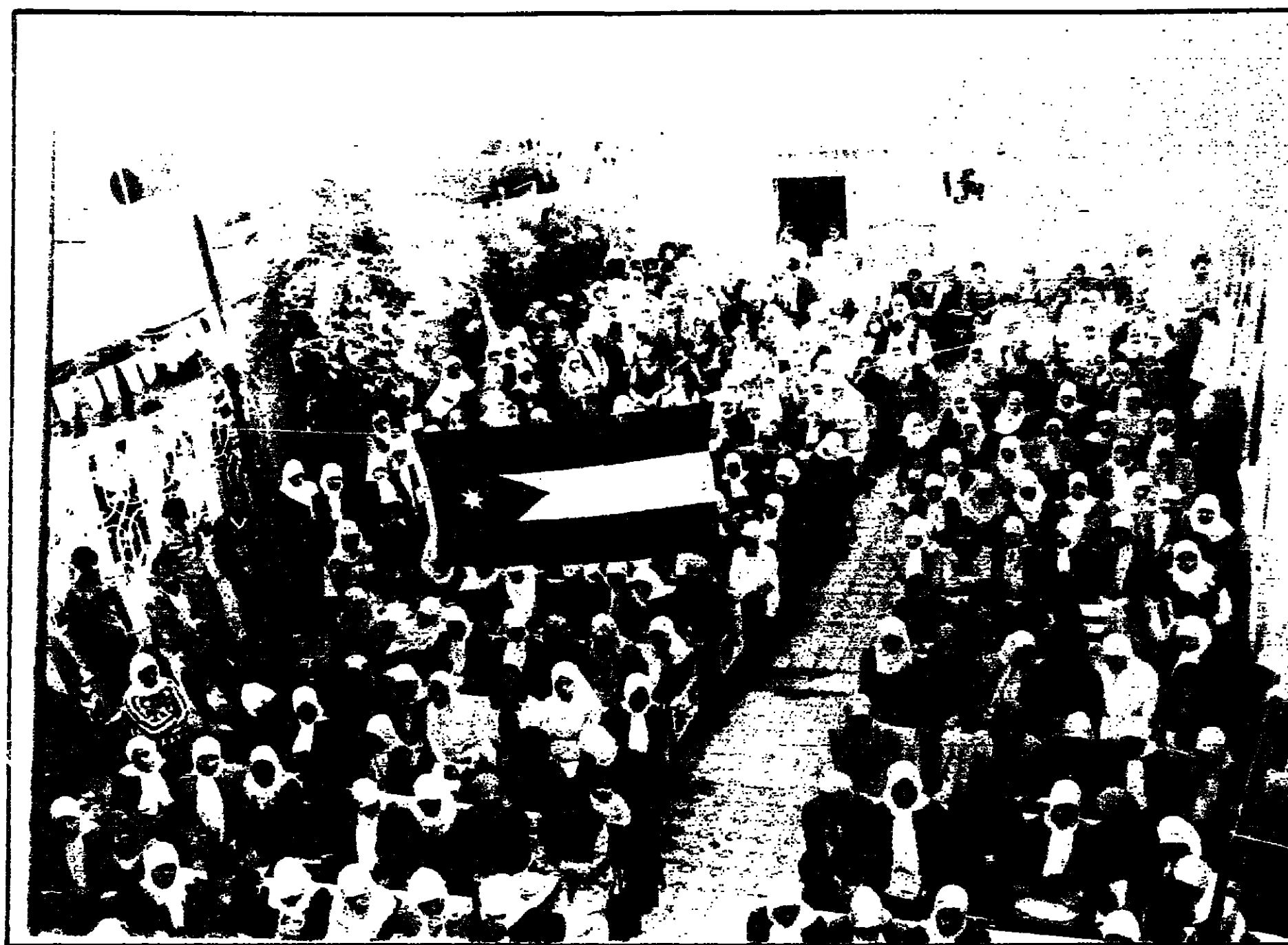
Asked if the Soviet army would withdraw from Afghanistan after an intervention of more than eight years, Shevardnadze simply waved and moved away from the microphones.

Earlier Shevardnadze and Secretary of State George Shultz discussed Moscow's plans for withdrawing troops from Afghanistan.

Shevardnadze was asked if U.S. and Soviet experts who Tuesday reviewed regional issues separate from the ministers solved the problem of Soviet aid to the Kabul regime — a key obstacle to an Afghan peace settlement.

"Without the ministers, the working group cannot decide anything," he said as he posed with Shultz at the State Department for photographers ahead of his session with Reagan.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said regional matters — particularly Afghanistan — were not considered at all by Shultz and Shevardnadze Tuesday but would top their Wednesday agenda.



Men and women: The moulding of sex roles

Najwa Najjar explores violence against women in the last of three articles. Part 2 appeared Wednesday.

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

VICTIMS of violence, whether implicit or explicit, have expressed feelings of humiliation, anger, contempt, and depression when they were subjected to such abuse, indicated a pilot study on

violence against women conducted by Jordanian specialists in women issues. This "nerve wrecking" experience faces the majority of Jordanian women on daily basis. Researchers and experts on women's issues said that because the violence is in many cases "cloaked", many women

were unaware that they were being abused.

University of Jordan sociology professor, a member of the research group, Arwa Ameri outlined the forms of violence in a lecture held on the occasion of woman's week at Abdul

Hamid Shoman Library earlier this month. Women could be abused sexually, emotionally, and economically, through the use of the male privilege, threats, intimidation and isolation.

Often women and men do not regard these actions as "violent" due to their upbringing, which make these actions acceptable, according to the report. The basis of this theory is deep-rooted in the patriarchal system, a system marked by the supremacy of man.

Although this theory has been contested by men and women, the specialists the Jordan Times spoke to attribute women's oppression to the patriarchal system. Lawyer Lama Abu Odeh.

Ameri and a graduate student, all involved and concerned with women's issues, discussed the traditional roles for males and females within the patriarchal system.

"Children who are brought up under this kind of system must adhere to certain roles created for them by the society. The woman's role is limited to the home, the man's, to the world," said Ameri.

In the first stage the female is prepared to become a wife. "She is taught marriage is the most

important and natural goal for females and her initial responsibility once she has found the 'right' man is to take care of the home and family, and to offer their services with a positive spirit," she said.

Training for marriage begins at home. "By obeying her father and brothers and by doing household chores," Ameri said. Meanwhile the male members of the family are raised to expect services from the woman as their right and that control/dominion is their natural role.

Ameri noted that in the second stage, after marriage, the situation does not change. "The woman continues sacrificing what she believes in and her ambitions for the man. The symbol of love is her submission, and her identity is only within the context of her family."

In general, female socialisation teaches women to believe that they are weak and in need of men. A graduate student told the Jordan Times: "Women have been brainwashed by the male-dominated society into thinking that they are incapable of doing anything. They see themselves as weak, because that is how men see them."

The patriarchal system and female oppression were related by the graduate student, Ameri and Abu Odeh. The three agreed that this system has created a male mentality which does not question man's power to control.

A controversial writer on the male supremacist ideology, Andrea Dworkin, has discussed in her book entitled, "Protophany: Men Possessing Women" the male mentality which gives men the right to physical strength as a means of power; the right to terrorise through various forms of violence; the right to label everything, including women; and the right to own, to money, and to sex. All of these rights, given men more power, to control, Dworkin asserted.

Supporting this theory, Ameri said: "The system aims to control women physically, mentally, socially, economically and politically through isolation and possession."

Abu Odeh said that upbringing reinforces man's "right" to possess women and his "right" to use violence against a woman if he feels she has "deviated" from her traditional role. "Male/female relationships tend to be possessive relationships: The woman is the man's possession. Rarely is marriage referred to as companionship. Therefore, if a man gets angry, he feels he can violate what he owns."

The economic factor

Both Abu Odeh and Ameri believe the economic factor plays a major role in strengthening man's ownership of women. "Most women, especially in the Arab World are economically dependent on their husbands. In return for taking care of the family, doing the housework and pleasing him, the husband gives the wife food, drink, clothes and shelter," Ameri said.

Due to the woman's economic dependency, the relationship has been relegated to a master-slave level. "It is a relationship of exploitation and because of this, if a woman does not listen to a man then she is subject to all kinds of abuse, like slaves," she said.

Another reason behind male violence against women is what is often referred to as the "madonna/whore" syndrome. According to Ameri, Abu Odeh and the graduate student, men have been taught that there are two kinds of women: The female who abides by all the rules laid down to her by society, "the good girl," usually embodied in mothers and sisters; and the female who deviates from the traditional role set for her is "the bad girl," usually every other female.

Since "the bad girl" does not deserve the male's respect, then he can abuse her in whatever way suits him. On the other hand, "the good girl" he owns, and therefore, he can behave with her in whatever way suits him, too.

"Unfortunately, many women see themselves as men see them," said the graduate student. This is why many women who have been violated do not even notice that an act of violence has been committed against them. "Women often feel that it was their fault that they were violated because they provoked the man. It is normal for men to be violent, and it is necessary to put up with it for the sake of the children," said Ameri.

To date there are no social institutions to protect or to offer counselling for Jordanian women who have been abused. Most of the younger victims have stated that they have turned to their families for safety, but a lot of the older women have remained silent. They fear family retaliation or more violence on the husband's part.

According to Abu Odeh there are Jordanian laws which protect individuals from violence. "It is within the woman's right to report incidents of battery and assault and to press charges," she said, adding that usually women do not report violence against

them because of the societal attitude on the subject.

A victim, who wanted to sue a male colleague for verbally abusing her, was discouraged by her family. "Scandal and shame was associated with my pressing charges on him. My family and relatives said that people would think that he had violated me in stronger ways than I take such a drastic measure of suing. Society looks at the violation of a woman as a violation of the male's honour, and tries to cover up," she said.

Economic independence?

Although there are laws protecting women, economic dependency is a strong reason why women do not free themselves from abusive relationships. Ameri and Odeh suggest economic independence as a tool of liberation. "A woman is not brought up to realise all her potentials and to have other alternatives to marriage. Her main ambition is to be a housewife, unpaid. If she divorces, she has to go back to her father or brother, or to another husband. She continues being dependent on a male, and the relationship continues to be unbalanced. She must become economically independent," Ameri said.

The graduate student offered an alternative to compliment women's economic independence as a means to end any form of violence used against them. "Women must understand that they are not weak or stupid, but that they are oppressed. They must refuse to accept the situation, and must do their best to make males aware of this oppression."

She believes that males suffer oppression as well. "Male's socialisation constricts individuality. They are taught to be aggressive and dominating (sometimes contrary to individual nature) and often unknowingly oppress women. Still, I do not condone them, I hold them responsible. But, we must understand we share the battle, tell men 'you treat me this way and it hurts me, and hurts you as well'."

To her self-realisation and assertion of independence, including economic independence, are the keys to free individual women from their oppression. However, for comprehensive change, the interviewees agreed that change must occur on all levels: Individually, in the family unit, in society at large, and on all institutional level. The change will be hastened once men begin to look at women as equal partners in life.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:00 Koran
15:30 Programme Review
15:40 Children programmes
16:10 French teaching programme
17:40 Moving Camera
18:10 He's the Mayor
18:40 Health and Life (local)
19:10 World News Reports
19:20 Programme Review
19:25 Special programme about Islamic countries

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Rue Carnot
18:30 A chance and chances
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Special programme
21:10 Rags to Riches
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film: "Kids like These"

RADIO JORDAN

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partly on 95.0 KHz, SW
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07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Country Music
11:30 Hitsville: The story of Motown
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Now Music
12:30 News Summary
12:35 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 My Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Hitsville: The story of Motown
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 Our Mutual Friend
18:05 Music
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary

FOR FRIDAY

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME ONE

10:00 Koran
10:30 Programme Review
10:40 Children programmes
10:50 Cartoons and Children programme
11:20 Religious series
11:30 Friday's prayer
14:30 Sport magazine
14:40 Art and Crafts
15:25 Vengence
16:45 Arabic comedy
17:15 Believe It or Not
18:05 News reports
18:20 Viewers' choice (Arabic)
19:20 Local programme
19:50 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 A programme on the West Bank

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

PROGRAMME ONE

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Sports World
06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News
07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours
07:15 News Summary 07:30 People's Choice
07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk
08:30 Great Love Ducts 08:40 The Farming World 09:00 World News
09:09 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30
Julie Box Duty 09:45 Network UK
10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections
10:15 Sports World 10:30 John Peel
11:00 World News 11:09 British Press
Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30
Financial News: Sports Roundup 11:45
The Story of English 12:00 News Summary
12:09 24 Hours: King Street
Junior 13:00 World News 13:09 News
About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25
A Letter from England 13:30 Citizens
14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15 Multitrack
2 14:45 Sports Roundup 15:00 World
News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary
15:30 Network UK 15:45 Folk in
Britain/Jazz Scene U.K. 16:00 Out-
look: 5-Minute News 16:05 Write On:
17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 The
Pleasure's Yours 18:00 World News
18:09 Commentary 18:15 Assignment
18:45 The World Today 19:00 World
News 19:10 Citizens 19:45 Sports Roundup
20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Discovery 21:00
Outlook: News Summary: 21:30 Stock
Market Report 21:45 Here's Humph!
22:00 World News 22:09 Twenty-
Hours: News Summary

VOICE OF AMERICA

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11925 and 15210 KHz

06:00 News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 VOA
Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline
07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10
Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 17:00
News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music
USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30
Special English News & Features 19:00
News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine
Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30
Special English News & Features 21:00
News 21:10 Newsline 21:30 Music
USA 22:00 News 22:10 Newsline
Music USA Jazz 23:00 News 23:10
World Report

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
partly on 95.0 KHz, SW
Tel: 77411-19

PROGRAMME TWO

17:20 French film: "Staccato"
17:30 News in French
18:15 Un Ob de plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Special programme
21:10 Magazine
22:00 News in English
22:20 Falcon Crest
22:30 Some Mothers Do have Them

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
partly on 95.0 KHz, SW
Tel: 77411-19

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An art exhibition by Olivia Palard
at Alia Art Gallery (until March 28)

* Book exhibition at the Comprehensive
Commercial Centre (Tower Building),
Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle (perman-
ent).

* General book exhibition at the
Professional Associations Complex in
Shmeisani.

* Book exhibition at the University of
Jordan's Faculty of Arts.

* Art exhibition by Samia Zarour at
the Jordan National Museum of Fine
Arts (until end of March)

* Art exhibition by Mohammad Boudis
and Mounira Al-Jarrah at the
Housing Bank Gallery (runs through
April 19).

* An exhibition of etchings by British
artist David Hockney at the British
Council. There is also a showing of
video film entitled "Hockney" during
the exhibition (until March 27).

* First School Arts Exhibition at
Ahmad Touqan School. Open during
school hours until June 1988.

* Kevin Eubanks Trio (guitarist, bass-
ist and drummer) to perform con-
tempor jazz (23 March - 29 March).

* Exhibition for the Spanish artist
María Dolores Travesedo at the Span-
ish Cultural Centre.

FILMS

* "Una strana coppia di suoceri"
(Italian) at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the
Hayas Centre.

* "Prizzi's Honour" at 7:00 p.m.
Thursday at the American Centre.

FIELD TRIP

* Friends of Archaeology arranges a
trip to Wadi Jala'a, north of Amman,
on Friday, March 25. A number of
ruins in close proximity, and enjoy
abundant spring flowers. Starts from
Amra Hotel at 9:00 a.m.

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science
Museum." Fun and knowledge for all
ages, plus a small planetarium at the
Hayas Centre. Open all week 9:00
a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Closed on Friday.

Rubbens Museum: Jewelry and cos-
tumes over 100 years old. Also monies
from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th
centuries). The Roman Theatre, Am-
man. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.
year-round. Tel: 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has
an excellent collection of the anti-
quities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a
(Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00
a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official
holidays) 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.).
Closed Tuesdays.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabal Amman, Tel. 634590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman
Catholic) Jabal Luweideh, Tel.
637400.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757.
Terrasanta Church (Roman Catholic),
Jabal Luweideh, mass in Italian lan-
guage, meet every Sunday at 5:30
p.m. Tel: 623366.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek
Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Re-
demption) Jabal Amman, Tel. 623363,
chaplain's residence tel. 601359.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh,
Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashra-
fieh, Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Ortho-
dox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-
denominational) meets at Southern
Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel.
677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church
of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arab-
ic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N.
Smir, tel. 811295.
Rainbow Congregation (meets at the
Good Shepherd's Church) Inter-
denominational-evangelical-cum-
musical Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel.
822605, Rev. Veli.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
Day Saints (Mormons) Tel. 815817,
81264.

POP TALK

07:30 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Rhythm and Blues
08:00 News Summary
08:05 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 News Summary
11:05 Listeners' Choice
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Listeners' Choice
12:30 Country Music
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Country Music
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Jordan Weekly
14:30 Jordan Weekly
15:00 In Concert
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 In Concert
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 Music
20:00 Discovering Music
21:00 Pop Talk

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Country Style
06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News
07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours
07:15 News Summary 07:30 People's Choice
07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk
08:30 Meridian 09:00 World News
09:09 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30
Write on... 09:45 Seven Seas 10:00
World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15
Virtuose 10:30 Music Now 11:00
World News 11:09 British Press Re-
view 11:15 The World Today 11:30
Financial News: Sports Roundup 11:45
Canary Row 12:00 News Summary:
Julie Box Duty 12:15 Seven Seas 12:30

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal
Jordanian (RJ) information depart-
ment at the Queen Alia International
Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it
should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:15 Agaba (RJ)
09:30 Cairo (RJ)
09:40 Kuwait (RJ)
09:40 Jeddah (RJ)
09:50 Dhahran (RJ)
09:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:35 New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:00 Athens (RJ)
18:15 London, Geneva (RJ)
18:45 Bucharest, Larnaca (RJ)
19:45 Rome (RJ)
23:55 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

12:05 Cairo (MS)
12:10 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
13:40 Kuwait (RJ)
14:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
15:00 Riyadh (SV)
15:30 Baghdad (IA)
18:20 Amsterdam (KLM)
18:35 Frankfurt (LH)
20:15 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
21:05 Paris (AF)
00:25 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:00 Agaba (RJ)
10:30 Bucharest (RJ)
10:45 Larnaca, Athens (RJ)
10:45 Rome (RJ)
11:00 Frankfurt, London (RJ)
12:15 Brussels, Paris (RJ)
19:35 Kuwait (RJ)
19:45 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
19:50 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
19:55 Baghdad (RJ)
20:00 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:15 Cairo (RJ)
21:30 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
22:00 Bangkok (RJ)

Jazz for the Asking 13:00 World News

13:09 News About Britain 13:15 Talk-
ing From... 13:30 Meridian 14:00
Radio Newsworld 14:15 Business Mat-
ters 14:45 Sports Roundup 15:00
World News 15:09 24 Hours: News
Summary 15:30 John Peel 16:00 Out-
look: 5-Minute News 16:45 Nature
Notebook 17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15
The Reluctant Debutante 18:00 World
News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Science
in Action 18:45 The World Today
19:00 World News 19:09 A Letter from
Northern Ireland 19:15 Music Now
19:45 Sports Roundup 20:00 Newsdesk
20:30 Multitrack 3 21:00 News Sum-
mary: Outlook 21:30 Stock Market
Report 21:45 Personal View 22:00
World News 22:09 24 Hours: News
Summary 22:30 Science in Action
23:00 News Summary: Network UK
23:15 Business Matters 23:45 Augustus
Carp Esq by Himself 24:00 World
News 00:09 The World Today 00:25 A
Letter from Northern Ireland 00:30

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:20 Frankfurt (LH)
12:50 Cairo (MS)
13:45 Bahrain, Doha, Abu Dhabi (GF)
15:00 Kuwait (RJ)
15:30 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
16:30 Baghdad (IA)
16:40 Riyadh (SV)
19:20 Cairo (MS)
20:00 Sana'a (LH)
22:05 Baghdad (AF)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Wednesday rates

Local sell/buy rates in Jds
Belgian franc 94.8/ 96.6
Dutch guilder 176.5/ 179.6
French franc 58.3/ 59.4
Italian lira 26.8/ 27.3
Japanese yen (for 100) 264/ 269.2
Swedish crown 56.2/ 57.2
Swiss franc 239.9/ 244.4
U.K. sterling pound 613.8/ 626.9
U.S. dollar 335.7/ 341
W. German mark 196.1/ 201.9

PRAYER TIMES

04:11 Fajr
05:30 Sunrise (Sunrise) Doha
11:42 Dhuhr
15:11 Asr
17:54 Maghrib
19:13 Isha

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of
Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy to cloudy
with slight decrease in temperature and
north-westerly moderate winds. In
Agaba, the winds will be north-westerly
moderate and calm sea.

Mat./max. temp.

Amman 8/ 18
Agaba 13/ 26
Deserts 6/ 20
Jordan Valley 12/ 25
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman
14, Agaba 23. Humidity readings:
Amman 68 per cent. Agaba 34 per
cent.

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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17:35 New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:00 Athens (RJ)
18:15 London, Geneva (RJ)
18:45 Bucharest, Larnaca (RJ)
19:45 Rome (RJ)
23:55 Baghdad (RJ)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Qawsneh 70733
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First Aid 630341
Blood Bank 78303
Civil Defence 661111
Fire headquarters 62200-3
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 639141
Traffic police 896301
Electric Power Co. 636314, 636381
Municipal water complaints 771258
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport (08)533060

GENERAL

Jordan Television 77311/19
Radio Jordan 77411/19
Ministry of Tourism 64231

Jordan observes Meteorology Day

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Wednesday joined world nations in observing Meteorological Day, which is being held this year under the slogan of "Meteorology and Information".

The Department of Meteorology held an exhibition on the occasion, displaying equipment for forecasting the weather and items used in this service which benefits the public, airlines and telecommunications services.

On display also are maps, equipment that measure temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure and pollution in the atmosphere.

The exhibition was opened by Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan who delivered a speech paying tribute to the Department of Meteorology for its services to the country.

The minister referred to the cloud seeding programme, undertaken by the department, which, he said, is a manifestation of the department's efficient employment of technological equipment.

The cloud seeding equipment, he said, were used this year on an experimental basis but they are useful in the future to increase rain on which Jordan's agricultural wealth depends.

Department Director Ali Abanda delivered a speech outlining the department's services, specially in providing information for farmers on the weather conditions.

Since the signing of documents on the establishment of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) in Geneva, Abanda said, 160 nations have joined WMO to add their expertise to the general world efforts in meteorological affairs.



Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan speaks on the occasion of the World Meteorology Day. (below) The minister inspects the different equipment used by the Meteorological Department (Petra photos)



Fayez heads parliamentary delegation to Egypt

CAIRO (Petra) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation led by Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akel Al Fayez arrived here Wednesday on an official visit to Egypt, and talks with the Egyptian Peoples Council speaker.

In a statement at the airport, Fayez said the two sides will discuss urgent issues of concern to the Arab countries, they will examine bilateral parliamentary ties and the situation in the occupied

Arab territory in the light of the current Palestinian uprising there, in addition to the Gulf war and prospects for holding an international peace conference.

Fayez expressed hope that the two sides will arrive at fruitful results, benefiting the peoples of Egypt and Jordan.

The Egyptian Peoples Council Speaker Rifat Mahjoub welcomed Fayez and his accompanying delegation upon their arrival and said that the visit was within

the framework of the distinguished relationship between Egypt and Jordan.

Talks between parliamentary teams representing the two sides are to start at the Egyptian Peoples Council Thursday.

The Jordanian delegation which comprises 16 members are making the visit upon an invitation from Mahjoub.

Later Wednesday Fayez was received by Egyptian Prime Minister Ataf Sidki with whom he

reviewed the situation in the occupied Arab territory.

Fayez spoke on Jordan's stand with regard to the Palestine question and voiced Jordan's continued coordination with Egypt in parliamentary affairs.

Fayez held separate meetings with Mahjoub and members of the People's Council to review Arab affairs and the developments in the occupied Arab territories.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PRINCESS BASMA: Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, president of the board of trustees of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund, Wednesday attended a play entitled a Mother's Dream prepared by students at Al Ahliya School for Girls on the occasion of Mothers' Day.

PHILIPPINE ENVOY: Minister of Higher Education Dr. Nassereddine Al Assad Wednesday discussed with the Ambassador of the Philippines in Amman Juan Saez boosting bilateral relations in the field of higher education and increasing the number of Philippine students at Jordanian universities. The two sides also discussed the provision of Jordanian assistance in the setting up of the projected Islamic International University in the Philippines.

ISLAMIC LEADERS: Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat met separately in his office Wednesday with heads of Islamic societies in Libya and the Comoro Islands, who are taking part in the Organisation of Islamic Conference meeting in Amman. The minister reviewed with them their countries' relations with Jordan and bilateral cooperation in religious affairs.

HAMZEH VISITS MA'AN: Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh visited Ma'an Wednesday and opened a first aid and emergency department, and a section for forensic medicine at the Ma'an Government Hospital. In a speech on the occasion Hamzeh said the Health Ministry was trying to introduce all possible measures for providing primary health care to all governorates.

KARAMEH BATTLE MARKED: The Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) in cooperation with the 12th Royal Mechanised Division held a ceremony here Wednesday to observe Al Karameh Battle anniversary. The ceremony included a photo exhibition opened by JUST President Kamel Ajlouni depicting the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces. Later he opened a taekwondo tournament organised with the Military Sports Federation and the Greater Amman Municipality.

HEARING-IMPAIRED: National Aid Fund (NAF) Director General Khalil Fa'ouri visited the Queen Alia Society for the Rehabilitation of the Hearing-Impaired and discussed with society members matters related to the rehabilitation of handicapped children. He also discussed cooperation between the two institutions in diagnosing the children's cases and providing hearing aids to them at NAF's expense.

WATER SPRING CLOSED: A water spring owned by the Schneller School in the Zarqa Governorate has been ordered closed by Zarqa Governor Eid Al Qataneh. A spokesman for the governor said that tests conducted on samples from the spring proved that the water was not fit for human consumption.

SPECIAL LICENCE CARDS: The Civil Defence Department (CDD) has issued special licence cards for vehicles that sell gas cylinders in the Kingdom. The cards show the car number, type and load capacity as well as the distributor and the region for distribution. A CDD official said other vehicles with no such cards will be banned from distributing gas cylinders since they would not be approved as providing safety measures in their operations.

MARQA IN IRAQ: The Jordan Radio, Television and Cinema Production Company Director Jawad Al Marqa left for Baghdad Wednesday to take part in a television festival.

MAJALI VISITS ZARQA: Public Security Department (PSD) Director General Lieutenant-General Abdul Hadi Al Majali visited Zarqa Police Department Wednesday and inspected works currently underway for expanding the police department's facilities. The expansion projects fall within the PSD's programmes to set up new security centres around the Kingdom.

N. YEMENI DELEGATION: University of Jordan's Vice President Dr. Mahmoud Al Samra Wednesday met with an educational delegation from North Yemen and discussed with them cultural and academic relations between the university and institutions of higher education in North Yemen.

2-day seminar aims to introduce innovation in educational system

AMMAN (Petra and J.T.) — A two-day National Seminar on Educational Innovation opened Wednesday at the Amman Hotel in Amman with the participation of 30 representatives from local educational institutions.

Two working papers from the Ministry of Education and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) are to be examined, along with several proposals submitted by the participants during the sessions, a Ministry of Education official told the Jordan Times.

She said that the seminar, financed by UNESCO and organised by the Ministry of Education aims to coordinate work among national educational institutions towards introducing innovation in the Kingdom's educational systems.

Ministry of Education's Secretary General Radi Al Waqfi

opened the meetings on behalf of Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi, outlining the importance of the innovation programmes for promoting education which, he said, is closely related to social and economic development.

Waqfi said that the seminar takes place as the country is involved in the implementation of resolutions adopted by the first national educational conference held in Amman last September, which aimed to overhaul the educational structure, its curricula, school textbooks, teaching methods and school administration.

The innovation programme

aims to bring about a qualitative improvement to education in the general sense, and to release the creative potential of all those involved in the educational process in Jordan.

Waqfi emphasised Jordan's support for and appreciation of UNESCO's role in cooperating with Jordan and other Arab countries for promoting education.

UNESCO delegate Abdul Wahid Yousef said that the innovation seminar will seek solutions of educational systems and explore better means for serving Arab social and economic objectives.

UNESCO role is confined to providing technical support in the fields of innovation throughout the Arab World and facilitating cooperation between the Arab states on the one hand, and between them and countries in other continents on the other,

Abdul Wahid said. Another speaker was Dr. Izzat Jaradat from the Ministry of Education who said that the delegates will lay down new conceptions for innovation and development of education in Jordan.

Participants in the seminar, which was organised in cooperation with the Kuwait based Educational Programmes for Innovation and Development in Arab States (EPIDAS), come from the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, Jordan University of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Higher Education, the Vocational Training Corporation, the Higher Council for Science and Technology, UNESCO and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA).

Senior military and civil officials attended the opening session.

GUVS honours Haj Hassan

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) Wednesday held a reception party in honour of Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan in recognition of his support and backing for GUVS activities.

The reception was attended by Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat and prominent members of GUVS.

In a speech, on this occasion, GUVS President Abdullah Al Khatib said that with support from Haj Hassan, GUVS promoted its activities and operations and with the result that at least JD 10 million of its funds are being invested in charity and voluntary services, and programmes on both banks of the River Jordan.

Hmoud inspects farming areas in Balqa

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud Wednesday made an inspection tour of forest and range districts in Balqa Governorate, and urged farmers to plant more trees that are suitable for the area.

The minister said that rain in the present season has been plentiful and should guarantee the growth of all saplings.

The minister also called on

farmers to use automatic machinery more and more to ensure larger crops in bigger areas of land.

Agriculture Ministry Specialist Abdul Majid Abu Rumman presented a briefing on the ministry's afforestation projects on the slopes of Eera and Yaraqa hilly towns in the Balqa Governorate, and said that nearly 60,000

dunums of land have been planted with forest trees and stone-fruit trees.

The department of agriculture here is currently building an 80-kilometre stretch of agricultural road to help farmers transport their products, Abu Rumman said.

The minister was accompanied by senior officials.

Quiz Night to benefit the handicapped

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the Patronage of Their Highnesses Prince Ra'd and Princess Majda, British Airways and the Marriott Hotel are bringing "Quiz Night" to Jordan for the first time. The idea is to have fun and make money for charity. The Al Hussein Society for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped is to be beneficiary of what will be a very exciting and rewarding evening.

Now, over JD 10,000 worth of prizes, gifts and goodies will be on offer to be won or just given away.

"I have been delighted by the very generous response from so many contributors," said British Airways Manager Eric Burdon.

There are a few tables left, and participants can reserve by calling the Marriott Hotel or British Airways on 680055. Tickets are JD 12,000 for this fun-filled evening, and the word is that everyone gets a prize. Unlimited beer/wine/soft drinks/supper and entry to fantastic door prizes are included in the price.

Children demand more libraries with colourful books

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Two little girls Wednesday demanded that adults listen to what children want and to provide them with their cultural needs "because there are as many of us as there are of you."

School children should have a weekly class where they go to a library and read books of their choice, and then discuss what they read with each other, suggested Rawan and Dima, adding that they prefer reading on their own rather than having a teacher read to them.

The children were speaking at the opening of a two-day seminar under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor and attended by Noor Al Hussein Foundation Director General In'am Al Mufri who deputised for the Queen.

Speaking at the seminar on children's literature in Jordan — held by the National Association for the Education of Children — Rawan, 9, and Dima, 7, demanded that there be more children's libraries with a more variety of books that are "colourful, comprehensible and useful."

"We like books that carry more good than evil so that other children don't imitate the evil. We like realistic stories so that we can believe them, as well as stories on animals and nature, and heroes," Rawan said, adding that "how to do" books and books on scientific inventions are also interesting to read.

On plays and theatre, the girls said children usually prefer short plays that discuss one important issue, "and if there should be singing, then the songs should be in the right place in the play, not stuck anywhere."

Because so many children are spending a lot of time watching television, Rawan and Dima suggested that there be less violent children shows such as many of the Japanese cartoons "because we would like to tell you that many children imitate the violence they see on TV." They added that they prefer entertaining cartoons and shows that are either in Arabic or translated into Arabic because "we are Arabs and not foreigners."

The opening of the seminar, held at the Amman Chamber of Commerce, included a children's exhibition on books and educational games.

The first day of the seminar included seven working papers. The first paper, presented by Dr. Fakhr Tumulieh entitled "the tale in Jordanian children's literature," is about findings of a study conducted on thirteen different stories.

He gave brief analyses of the stories he had reviewed and concluded that the number of Jordanian children's story writers and books are still very limited. Because of this, he said, the number of children interested in reading outside the school has decreased tremendously. He also believes that there is not enough interest accorded to children's theatre in Jordan.

Tumulieh said the lack of critics reviewing children's books reflects a lack of interest in this field. He concluded that another major problem with children's literature in Jordan is that "for some reason or other, many serious writers are unable to publish what they write."

Children's theatre

Another paper was presented by Mohammad Malas on children's theatre.

The speaker said that educational institutions should encourage children's theatre and make it a part of extra curricular activities at school.

He said that scripts should be written in simple classical Arabic, "because it is an opportunity for children to read and view plays within their understanding. The writers must take into consideration the different age groups regarding subjects, language and vocabulary that suit every age group," he said.

Malas added that it is the duty of the media to take more active interest in children's culture in general and theatre in particular. "Adults should be aware of the importance and necessity of children's theatre," he noted.

Speaker Mohammad Thaher called on Arab writers' associations, literary institutions and specialists to make an inventory of children's books and evaluate

them. He said this should be done with the cooperation of children themselves.

Thaher also suggested that a committee of specialists should study all vocabulary used by children in the Arab World and come up with a children's dictionary.

He said university students should be assigned to research children's literature and libraries. The speaker added that specialised agencies should be established to supervise all literature pertaining to children.

Other working papers were presented at the first day of the seminar, including creativity and its conditions by Ahmad Abu Arkub, creative writing by Shehadeh Al Natour, elementary Arabic language textbooks by Amin Al Kakhen, and a paper on a format for the analysis of Arabic language books by Mohammad Meqdadi and Shadia Al Tal.

Tamimi highlights importance of Jerusalem's holy places

IRBID (Petra) — A seminar was held here Wednesday in observance of Al Israa Wal Mi'raj feast, during which the history of Jerusalem and the importance of its holy places were discussed by notable speakers.

The General Mufti of Jordan Sheikh Izzeddin Al Tamimi outlined the history of the Holy City under the Romans, the Crusaders and others, projecting Al Haram

Al Sharif's importance to the Muslim people.

He also spoke about the Israa Wal Mi'raj and its religious significance for Islam.

With reference to the current situation in the occupied Arab territory, Sheikh Tamimi spoke in length about Israel's practices and its constant drive to uproot the Arab population and its acts of sacrilege at the holy shrines.



Jordanian artist holds exhibition in Washington

AMMAN (J.T.) — An art exhibition organised by a group of art lovers residing in Washington, D.C. is currently on display at the Addison-Ripley Gallery in Washington, D.C.

The show of works on paper by Jordanian artist Nabila Hilmi opened Tuesday, March 22.

Hilmi's vision is centred on the relationship of the inner to the outer world. She creates atmospheres where human beings interact with each other as well as with the objects around them. Those objects are charged with a life force equal to that of the humans.

To her, reality is seen as an addition of moments: Separate, intense, real and moving in time and space. The sense of movement as well as fragmentation of visible reality is paramount in Hilmi's work.

Hilmi uses collage, ink, water colours and mixed media to express her vision.

She was born in Jerusalem and spent her early years in Egypt and Lebanon. She earned a law degree from St. Joseph University in Beirut and a B.A. in Fine Arts (with high distinction) from Beirut University College. She further studied at the Art Students League in New York City. She now lives in Washington, D.C. and Amman. The exhibition will continue until April 4.



The two children, Rawan and Dima, Wednesday speak during the opening of the seminar on children's literature in Jordan. (below) Noor Al Hussein Foundation Director General In'am Al Mufri visits the children's exhibition on books and educational games (Petra photos)



Jordan Times

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Equal rights, but not for Gentiles

THE collapse of an ancient mosque in Herziyya earlier this week, killing an old woman and seriously injuring a child, is a timely reminder of the state of Islamic holy shrines under Israeli control. The fact that the collapsed mosque was in "Israel proper," which boasts of its record of "equal rights" for all, should concern the Islamic foreign ministers gathered in Amman. The mosque was damaged in the 1948 war, and the Israeli government did not allow the faithful to repair it, thus leaving it to the course of nature to destroy it. The Herziyya case is not an isolated one; there are scores of Islamic holy places elsewhere in Palestine which have been subjected to Israel's systematic drive to wipe out the Arab and Islamic character of Palestine. The Herziyya mosque could have been saved from destruction had the Israeli authorities permitted its Arab citizens to do so. By the same token, it doesn't take any imagination to judge the fate of holy places — Christian as well as Muslim — in Jerusalem and the West Bank, where the Palestinian people are suffering occupation and consequent oppression.

Israel is bent upon a course of ultimate destruction of non-Jewish shrines in the occupied lands, and the faithful stand in need of every assistance to sustain their effort to counter the Zionist state's plans to judaize Jerusalem and the occupied territories. This is part of the overall Palestinian struggle for their rights in their homeland; but for the Israelis, it is only the beginning of their long-term designs.

Islamic holy shrines under Israeli control had always been a focal point for the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), and much has been accomplished in the Haram Al Sharif complex in Jerusalem. But it is also time that the OIC, gathered here no more than a few dozen kilometres from Jerusalem and Palestine, enhance its scope of action to include other Islamic landmarks. Anything short of a dedicated and serious effort will only result in a greater threat that Muslim history may be slowly eliminated from the land, and relegated to books.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Solidarity is the solution

AN examining look at the Islamic foreign ministers agenda will reveal two important points: That without real solidarity among Muslims there can be no solution of any problems, and that Islam is a religion that contradicts injustice, racism, exploitation and terrorism and against economic, cultural and political oppression and aggression. For this reason, the Islamic world continues to face serious challenges and continues to struggle against those who want to impose injustice and deprive peoples of their freedom and peace. Any alliance by any party with racism and injustice is confronted by Islam, and any attempts for expansionism and hegemony is opposed by this religion and the faithful. In his address to the OIC foreign ministers in Amman the King referred to the issues confronting the Islamic World pointing to national security, scientific and technological challenges, requirements for development, internal disputes and regional stability as among several others. He warned that the enemies of Islam were trying to weaken the Islamic nation in these above-mentioned areas, and deepen divisions among Muslims, so that they can impose their hegemony and domination. The King made it clear that the Islamic world's political problems stem from weakness planted within Muslims by the nation's enemies.

Al Dustour: Jordan stands by Saudi Arabia

KING Hussein expressed Jordan's total support for Saudi Arabia in the face of Israeli threats in his cable to King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz. He pledged a firm stand by the Arab country in confrontation with aggression or threats, by stressing that any aggression on Saudi Arabia would be considered as one directed against Jordan. The threats emanated from an arrogant enemy with a lust to impose hegemony on others and to interfere in their own affairs. Jordan regards such threats as posed against all Arabs and therefore, urges all Arabs to consider them seriously and deal with them with a responsible and national spirit. What the Arabs ought to do is to adopt a joint stand in the face of such challenges and Israel's expansionist and aggressive ambitions. We are confident that Saudi Arabia possesses the means to deter aggression and defend its sovereignty and its people, but we also demand that Arab states hold contacts at the highest level to come up with plans that can deter the enemy and prevent aggression. There is no need for the Arabs to complain to the United Nations since Israel attaches no importance to its resolutions and does not regard world opinion. Such challenge should be confronted with a better means to deter Israel from using its military power against the Arab World.

Sawt Al Shaab: Jordan will defend Saudi Arabia

JORDAN'S firm stand in seeking solidarity among Arabs and helping Arab countries to fend off aggression and safeguard the Arab Order was explicitly manifested in King Hussein's cable to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia. The King pledged that the Jordanian armed forces will be ready to fight off any aggression on Saudi Arabia with all its means and power. Israel which issued the threats displayed its adherence to its expansionist policies aimed at imposing domination on the Arabs, policies which are now futile in the light of Arab solidarity and unity of ranks achieved at the Amman Arab summit meeting. The Arab states are now more solid in their stand and more united in their purpose and objectives in a manner that can never allow their enemies to tamper with their national interests. Saudi Arabia's purchase of weapons for defensive purposes is of no concern to any one; and any Arab country has the right to arm itself against aggression from any source regardless of the views of others. The Israeli threats came as the foreign ministers of Islamic countries are holding their meetings in Amman to discuss means to unifying ranks in the face of common threats. Such threats by Israel which continues to occupy Arab land are directed towards impeding the peace process in the region.

Uprising endures

The following article is reprinted from the Israeli newspaper, The Jerusalem Post.

By Gabi Sheffer

THE ISRAELI public at large, and especially Israeli politicians, hold vastly wrong perceptions about the endurance of the Palestinians and their current uprising. Therefore both the promises given by former generals and assurances uttered by present leaders of the defence establishment, that soon or soon enough, the Palestinians' rebellion can be smashed, are based on false assumptions.

These inaccurate perceptions and erroneous assumptions stem simultaneously from lack of knowledge about the nature of combative national movements in general, and from unfamiliarity with the origins of the Palestinian movement, and the conclusions that it has drawn from its history, particularly from the failure of its uprising in the 1930s.

As past history and present events on the national front have shown, once a substantive national movement is determined to achieve its goals, and is taking firm action toward achieving them, there is almost no force that can stop it. At best, only massacres of its leaders, soldiers and supporters can delay the ultimate fulfilment of its aims.

This was the case with most of the national liberation movements that emerged in the wake of World War II, including some movements that, during their actual struggles against their oppressors, had seemed hopeless and helpless, like the FLN in Algeria, or Zionism itself.

More recently, the Armenians and the Tatars in the Soviet Union; the Basques in Spain; the Kurds in Iraq, Turkey and Iran; the Afghans; the Palestinians and many others have continued their relentless fight for self-determination, despite unwise attempts by militarily superior states to stop them. In all these cases, the outlook for the occupying powers is bleak, and for the national movements, bright.

Above and beyond this, it is now clear that the Palestinians would be able to continue their fight, both within the occupied territories and outside, almost indefinitely, not only because they fall under the general rubric of (substantive) combative national movements, or because they exhibit striking similarities to all other national movements, operating in various parts of the globe. The Palestinians have a good chance to endure in their protracted struggle with Israel because they also learned a number of important lessons from their own relatively unsuccessful rebellion of the late 1930s.

It seems that Palestinians have learned at least five major lessons, and are therefore becoming more sophisticated in their strife.

First, until now they have avoided violent internal fights and inter-factional massacres. This was one of the most debilitating aspects of their rebellion in the 1930s, which enabled the British and the Arab states to stop them short of their goals.

Second, until now the Palestinians have wisely avoided the use of lethal weapons in their fight against the IDF. Consequently, they have achieved a moral and

communications advantage over their rivals, who occasionally resort to the use of deadly weapons with devastating results for themselves rather than for the Palestinians.

It seems that prolonged acts of civil disobedience are paying handsomely in terms of international sympathy and purity at home. This strategy also pre-empted even harsher measures by Israelis, who may look for adequate pretexts to use them.

Third, the Palestinians have not created a roof organisation, like the Arab Higher Committee that they established in the 1930s. The advantages of having only one local, secret committee are many. The IDF cannot put its hand on and detain a few leaders or exile them, thus serving a deadly blow to the entire rebellion; the decentralised local committees can more efficiently run the show, since they know the local conditions better; they do not have to coordinate their actions or wait for authorisation from a distant body, etc.

Fourth, the Palestinians have also learned a few vital lessons concerning the nature of their leadership. Although it is difficult to prove, it seems that the present leadership is a combination of the young and the aggressive on the one hand, and the more experienced and the more open on the other. Despite the image they want to create, it looks as if some of the cleverer and older leaders still participate in guiding events. Also, intellectuals are playing a major role in the present uprising, which is demonstrating an ability to overcome many strategic hindrances.

Fifth, a priori, the Palestinians have designed their struggle to

achieve long-range objectives. They are not falling for quick fixes or easy solutions. They are psychologically ready to carry out their fight for a long time. And they are ready to take quite a lot, not out of submission, but out of their own choice. This creates an almost automatic advantage over Israelis, who are by nature impatient, and have tremendous difficulties in absorbing losses and casualties.

All these factors indicate that the longer the strife, the better the Palestinians' chances of achieving their goals. Moreover, developments until now indicate that if the Palestinians continue along these lines and continue to avoid the mistake of the 1930s, they can cause the vulnerable Israeli system even greater damage. They can bring about Israeli submission without resorting to the use of a full-fledged war by the Arab states, which could defeat their own purposes.

Without considering the political aspects, which are crucial for any comprehensive solution of the Israeli and Palestinian problem, Israel can move immediately to alleviate the situation.

It can, and should, express its recognition of the Palestinians' efforts for self-determination, which are now in full swing. The Palestinians are already on their way to achieving this supreme goal of all national movements, and Israel's recognition of it may at last open new avenues and prevent total catastrophe in this part of the world.

In addition to the moral and diplomatic justifications, such a move can create the calm without jeopardising any of Israel's own aims or plans, which should be explored along the political negotiating table.

Palestinians in Lebanon rush to aid uprising

By Marwan Naamani
Reuters

BEIRUT — A nine-year-old Palestinian boy in Beirut's Shatila refugee camp offered a handful of bullets to his teacher as a donation to the uprising in Israeli-occupied territories.

The bullets and an offer by 12 young brothers at Ain Al Hilweh camp to go on suicide missions into Israel are among the more emotional responses in a wave of support now sweeping parts in Lebanon for the uprising.

Many of the 400,000 Palestinians in Lebanon are stepping forward to help their stone-throwing brothers who have been

protesting against Israel in the West Bank and Gaza Strip since December 9.

Others march, strike or donate their time to show their backing for the uprising in which at least 102 Palestinians in the occupied territories have been killed by Israelis. One Israeli soldier has died, shot on March 20 by a Palestinian gunman.

A group of teenage girls too poor to give money is working for a month at the same charity owned by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"Their salary will be directly transformed into help for the people of Palestine," said a

Palestinian official at Ain Al Hilweh camp in the South.

Thousands of Palestinians at camps in South Lebanon staged a strike on March 21 and marched in support of the uprising to mark the 20th anniversary of a landmark clash between Palestinian fighters and Israeli troops at Al Karamah, Jordan.

The official said other refugees wanted to help not just with demonstrations, strikes and burning tyres, but by giving money, clothes, people and arms — if needed.

Committees grouping all Palestinian factions had been set up inside each of the dozen re-

fugee settlements in Lebanon to collect gifts.

"Most of the donations we receive from people are money and clothes," he said.

But other offers perhaps more graphically illustrate the depth of feeling.

Of the 12 boys who volunteered to stage suicide attacks into Israel, the official said: "They felt it was their way of contributing to the uprising."

"Bullets are the best donation for my people to fight the Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza. They do not have bullets there," Fatima, a teacher at Shatila quoted Jamal, nine, as saying.

For Palestinians, PLO is a homeland of the mind

By Youssef M. Ibrahim

TUNIS — Studying a few papers spread out over a barren desk with his oversized reading glasses, the "Old Man," as aides call Yasser Arafat, appears serene, almost bookish, a far cry from the fearsome image of the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

A scantily furnished office inside a nondescript villa in a Tunis suburb reflects his transient life: a Palestinian with no country, no wife, no permanent office and no home, moving from Arab capital to Arab capital skirting the forces battling him. The PLO he leads is not a political party, not even a unified movement. It suffers from divergent ideologies and many fractious groupings. Israel and several Arab governments have tried to eliminate it. The United States has passed a law that says American officials cannot talk with its representatives. Yet it would be an error to dismiss this balding, 59-year-old man or the PLO. Without them there appears to be little chance of peace between Arabs and Israelis. After 40 years of struggle, Arafat and the PLO have emerged as enduring symbols of the Palestinian quest for nationhood.

The strength of the PLO is in its diversity. It is neither a classic liberation movement, nor a government in exile. It is a state of mind, "the institutional frame for Palestinian identity," in the words of Ahmed Khalidi, a Palestinian writer who lives in London.

In times of crisis Palestinians — be they intellectuals, millionaires, refugee camp dwellers or gunmen — have reaffirmed their dedication to the PLO and their personal attachment to Arafat. While many independent observers assert that the Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza took the PLO by surprise, few would dispute the fact that the organisation has now placed its stamp on the events.

Arafat the symbol

Most Palestinians are attracted to Arafat for a variety of reasons, the most important of which is that he stands at the intersection of radical and moderate currents within the Palestinian diaspora. He attracts rich Palestinians as well as refugee camp dwellers.

His Fateh group acts as a governing party within a coalition, but it gives other factions a voice. Even those who have differed and opposed Arafat for not demanding enough in his quest for Palestinian rights come back to the same conclusion. "Anyone who opposes Arafat must decide who is the enemy, I ask is the enemy Israel, or Arafat?" said Dr. George Habash, the leader of the second largest PLO group, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, in a recent interview in Damascus.

This solidarity with the PLO was manifested few weeks ago when, at Arafat's request, Palestinian moderates refused to meet with United States Secretary of State George P. Shultz in Jerusalem. The PLO's endurance and Arafat's notoriety do not rest on dedicated intentions alone. For over 20 years, he and the men around him have put together an infrastructure that links Palestinians into a matrix of social and political organisations.

The PLO continues to conduct guerrilla operations, such as the attack two weeks ago on a bus full of civilians in the Negev desert. But the real strength of the organisation lies elsewhere, in the growing and complicated array of social, political, economic and labour union structures it runs. They permeate the lives of the estimated five million Palestinians who are scattered around the world, but most particularly those living inside the Israeli-occupied territories and within the Arab World.

Millions for support

Although the PLO is not authorised by Israel to pump money into various Palestinian institutions in the occupied territories, it has managed to do so. Marwan Barghout, one of the Palestinian uprising leaders who was expelled recently by Israel, said in an interview that 90 per cent of the student unions in the West Bank and Gaza are controlled by the PLO. Families of those killed or wounded by Israeli soldiers in the uprising receive aid from PLO. Those expelled, like Barghout and hundreds of other Palestinians before him, can count on the PLO to support them wherever they live.

According to Sami Musallam,

Arafat's office director, the PLO has succeeded, with the coordination of Jordan, "to get money to existing institutions. This has largely helped in developing the infrastructure of the occupied territories in health, education and the commercialisation of agricultural products" for Palestinians. More importantly, it has helped in binding Palestinians to the PLO. The dimension of this help is not a subject the PLO likes to discuss. But in a statement before the Israeli Knesset in 1986, Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli defence minister, said that in a period of seven months, some \$250 million in aid can be channelled to the occupied territories through Jordan and the Arab countries.

The PLO's ties to Palestinians, and its dependence on them, goes beyond the occupied territories. Today, the PLO runs hospitals in Lebanon, kindergartens in Egypt, plantations in Africa. It finances hundreds of Palestinian students — studying music in Bulgaria, medicine in the Soviet Union, engineering in England, sociology in the United States, law in Egypt, political science in Syria.

Palestinians who make little secret of their affinity with the PLO manage many of the daily newspapers, news agencies and television stations in the oil-rich Arab Gulf region. Teachers, doctors, engineers and contractors make up a hefty proportion of the

million or so Palestinians who live and work in the Gulf region and tens of thousands of others who live in Egypt, Syria and Libya. Under a law passed by most Arab governments, a 5 per cent income tax is kicked back to the PLO.

Just last week, some 30 to 40 Palestinian millionaires and businessmen flew in from London, Kuwait, Paris, Amman, Riyadh, and as far away as Asia and Latin America for a meeting with the "Old Man" here in Tunis. They are members of the Palestine National Fund, the PLO's treasury, which manages billions of dollars.

They came for one of their periodic meetings to consult with Arafat on how to draw a new budget that will pay the salaries

of the estimated 5,000-person bureaucracy that runs the organisation, and on broad outlines to finance the network of organisations that function across the Palestinian spectrum.

Arafat's astonishing hold on these men, most of whom are millionaires many times over, was evident. Once in a while, his men would come into the lobby of the hotel to summon one or more of the Palestinians to see him. There would be a tumult in the lobby and then the person summoned, beaming with excitement, would follow the messengers to another nondescript villa in yet another Tunis suburb where Arafat spent the night — The New York Times.

'We owned the land, we have a greater right'

By Nadia Hijab

LONDON — At first, the Palestinian was blurred to Western eyes. Zionists spoke of Palestine as "a land without a people for a people without land." Yet Palestinians outnumbered Jews 10-to-1 in a population of 500,000.

The Palestinian was so obscured from view that, when the state of Israel was created 40 years ago and 700,000 Palestinians became refugees, it was possible for Chaim Weizmann to declare that the region had been "uniraciously cleared."

The clearing was done by the official Zionist armed forces and by underground terrorist groups. The "cleared" Palestinians were condemned to exile or to the squalor of refugee camps, unwanted.

The denial of Palestinian existence continued, as shown by the late Golda Meir's incredible claim that there had never been a Palestinian people.

But speak to any Palestinian over 40 (the younger generation is losing this art) about someone from another part of Palestine, and he will immediately wonder whether this is the same branch of the such-and-such family, or the one who married so-and-so, and pour out information about this town or that village, down to the crops grown. A people so naturally interconnected has no need to build a nation. It is one.

Only in recent years has Israeli officialdom admitted the existence of the Palestinians, although with amazing qualifications. ("The Arabs share the blame for the plight of the Palestinians." Or "many Palestinians are recent arrivals to Palestine.") It is clear why such effort has gone into blanking out the Palestinians: If they exist in Palestine, have rights in Palestine, can the Zionist enterprise be moral?

In fact, only the Israeli colonists in the West Bank and Gaza settlements (erected with fervour by both Labour and Likud; recognised as illegal even by America) are behaving logically. As a settler told the London newspaper The Independent in January, the situation between Jews and Arabs in the territories is not one of right and wrong, but of right and right, and "the Jewish people have the greater need and the greater right."

That claim to a "greater right" than that of the indigenous inhabitants of Palestine, justified by a "greater need," sums it up. It enables the settlers to continue the process begun by the Zionist settlers in pre-1948 Palestine. And here is the rub: Either what happened in Palestine was right, and today's settlers are right. Or the settlers are wrong, as most people say — but then what the

Zionists did in the first place was wrong.

The wrong done in Palestine has never been recognised. Instead, the Palestinians are urged to recognise Israel's "right to exist" before they are allowed even to negotiate. Everyone has a right to exist. What the Palestinians challenge is Israel's right to Palestine.

Discriminated against in Europe, the Jews may well have had a need for a homeland, but what right did they have to Palestine? A historical right? There were certainly Jews in Palestine 2,000 years ago, and for many decades there was a Jewish state, as there were many other peoples and states, of whom the Palestinians are probably the closest descendants. That gives no right to turn the clock back.

A legal right? The basis for a Zionist claim is the Balfour declaration, an illegal promise made by Britain, which had no rights in Palestine. Israel was then given legal status by the United Nations (mostly Western) Nations, which admitted it to the international family — on conditions that have yet to be fulfilled, including the right of the Palestinian refugees to return.

A moral right? Does one people's calamity give it the right to negate another people? Does one really give, in the words of the Israeli settlers, "greater right"? There is implicit recognition that it does not in the insistence that Palestinians recognise "Israel's right to exist." Force of arms can create facts; only the victim's concession accords rights.

By the same moral argument, the Palestinians cannot now seek a solution that would return the status quo to what it was at the turn of the century, and displace 3.5 million Jews. There is an explicit admission of this in both the PLO's proffered solutions: A secular, democratic state, or two separate states, in the land that was Palestine.

The moral issue is at the core of the Palestinian question. Politics may view it with disdain, but without the conviction that it is wrong to do away with people because they are inconvenient, because of their beliefs, the colour of their skin, the shape of their noses, without morality as the basis of human relations, there are no grounds on which to condemn the Holocaust. And I do.

The writer, a Palestinian journalist based in London, is author of "Woman-power: The Arab Debate on Women at Work" (Cambridge University Press). The article is reprinted from the International Herald Tribune.

OPEN FORUM

Good guys and bad guys

DURING the formation of the United States of America, the early settlers and the army systematically repressed the indigenous population. In this case the "red" Indians. The creation of reservations and the obliteration of a traditional lifestyle is seen today as an acceptable facet of the "Great American Dream."

During the formation of the state of Israel, the early settlers and the army, systematically repressed the indigenous population. In this case the Palestinians. The creation of refugee camps and the obliteration of a traditional life style is seen today as an acceptable facet of Israeli life.

The parallel creations are proportionately on schedule. The rebellions of Cochise, Geronimo and Sitting Bull in the 1870s and 1880s have been mirrored by the rebellions of Palestinians in the occupied territories in the 1970s and 1980s.

The occurrence of a "Custer's Last Stand" type massacre of Israeli troops by the Palestinians would be the required catalyst to complete the cycle. The remaining, "Resegates", would be swept away in a murderous orgy of self-righteous indignation.

A complacent world may, believing itself to be now civilized, dismiss this idea as being unlikely. A simultaneous brownie through a current newspaper and the Ten Commandments in the Bible will convince the objective reader of how little civilization has morally progressed in thousands of years. One hundred years, in comparison, is an insignificant length of time.

After the capitulation of Nazi Germany in 1945, the world information services began a propaganda campaign in favour of the undeniably oppressed European Jews. In a wave of historically inaccurate enthusiasm, these European Jews were linked uncritically with the Bible's Twelve Tribes of Israel. The Roman holocaust against Bar Kokhbar at Masada, subsequent annihilations of Jewish communities throughout history and the extermination of six million Jews by Nazi Germany, make this link, in all but a few cases, highly unlikely. This propaganda campaign has carried on, throughout the subsequent years, unabated and has ignored historical facts in the same consistent manner.

There are members of the present Israeli government who, as members of the "Stern Gang", murdered British soldiers, either directly or indirectly. The purpose of these murders was to enhance the individual's standing within the ranks of his colleagues.

Similarly General George Armstrong Custer is recorded in history and on celluloid as a hero who saved the American West for the settlers and unselfishly gave his life as the ultimate sacrifice. In truth he was an opportunist who murdered Indian women and children and lost his final battle due to conceit and military incompetence.

Supporters of the former description outnumber supporters of the latter. World opinion has been indelibly forged and tempered with through time.

A lasting and just peace for the Palestinians in the occupied territories will not be consolidated at a conference or a summit. Although it will begin there.

It will be consolidated around the firesides in the homes of the world, when after a lot of soul searching, parents of all nationalities will teach their children the truth and not leave this vital characters-forming task to the omnipresent television with its bias.

An unconsolidated peace treaty between the Israelis and the Palestinians will be broken time and again until the grandchildren of the Israelis are left with a legacy similar to that which was left to the present inhabitants of the United States of America. Teenage suicide, alcoholism, drug abuse, poverty and immorality in high proportion to the population of American Indians, living sham of their traditional lifestyle on remote reservations. No Future, no hope, no self respect, typecast by Hollywood, in the minds of the world as the "Bad Guys".

A lasting peace must be supported by the world as a whole. The news media must tell the full truth to give peace a chance in time. (Children, no more of today have the "Cowboys killing the Indians." The games of tomorrow may well have the "Jews killing the Palestinians" with the same aplomb, and telling of it being right and natural.

Peter Fair

Continued from page one

Islamic World rallies behind Saudi Arabia against threats

(Continued from page 1)

Prince Saud also said Wednesday the OIC was extending serious efforts towards ending the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq and also to extend assistance to the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

He told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that heads of the OIC delegations had expressed all support for all measures being taken by Saudi Arabia to provide protection to the holy places in Mecca during the pilgrimage season.

In his address to the conference, Prince Saud urged Islamic countries to end their internal disputes and disunity and work together for serving Islamic causes.

He emphasised his country's support for convening an international conference to resolve the Palestine problem and end the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Prince Saud said Israel's intransigence was impeding all efforts for a just and durable settlement and "is bound to complicate the situation further."

He condemned Israel's practices against the Arab population as "terrorist actions which violate all international principles and laws."

He urged Muslim states to help convene an international conference on the Middle East.

Prince Saud said Iran was not satisfied with its confrontation with Iraq but "is trying to expand the circle of the war by attacking other countries in the Gulf region and endangering international navigation."

Prince Saud said his country "does not want to be hostile to Iran or any other Islamic state" but was trying to end the war by peaceful means.

At the outset of the Wednesday session, Pizarra announced that Saudi Arabia had donated \$10 million to organisations working for the OIC.

Tashkiri, the Iranian envoy, said Wednesday that Palestinian protesters in the West Bank and Gaza should emulate Iran's Islamic revolution.

Tashkiri said under the leadership of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini Iran destroyed the pro-U.S. regime of the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi which he called a "nest of evil."

"Our children faced it like the children who are throwing stones in Palestine, who are facing the enemy with his American weapons."

Arab League

Arab League representative Adnan Omran paid tribute to the Palestinian uprising and echoed the Arab Nation's call for an international conference on the Middle East.

He said the Arab World refuses the idea of "partial settlements" which he said, "cannot meet the requirements of a durable peace."

Omran also voiced the Arab support for all efforts being made at the Islamic level for resolving the

Lebanese crisis and ending Israel's occupation of South Lebanon.

On the Gulf war, Omran referred to the Arab League's efforts to end the conflict and said that the Arabs seek the implementation of Resolution 598.

Omran voiced the Arab League's support for Saudi Arabia's efforts to provide protection to pilgrims and said that the pilgrimage rites should not be exploited for any other purpose than religious.

Libya

Libyan Foreign Minister Jadhalla Azzouzi Al Talli said the Palestinian issue was one of the gravest issues in the world and that the crimes committed by the Israeli occupation authorities in the occupied territories were similar to those committed in South Africa. The racial discrimination, killing, and repressive measures in the occupied territories are identical with what is happening in South Africa, Talli said.

Talli also called on Iraq and Iran to put an end to their "destructive" war and said its continuation would undermine the Islamic Nation.

Qatar

Qatari Foreign Minister Under-Secretary Sheikh Hamad bin Sultan Al Khalifa praised the speech delivered by His Majesty King Hussein at the conference opening. He noted that the conference agenda had given prominence to challenges facing the Islamic Nation, especially the Palestinian uprising, the Iran-Iraq war and the Afghan problem.

Syria

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Sharara said there was no doubt that the Palestinian uprising "has rewritten the illuminated pages of our nation's history... pages that were never erased from our memories in Syria, despite the dangerous decline in the Arab situation over the past few years and the distortion of vision and attempts to change facts and positions."

Sharara said that in the light of the uprising, "which is in unity with the continuing struggle in the Golan and South Lebanon against the Zionist enemy, we wonder how could any of us offer compromises to this enemy?"

The uprising "has emphasised to the whole world that there will be no peace except through ending the Israeli occupation in all Arab territories and that the Palestinians people will not accept anything short of gaining independence and restoring all national rights."

The Syrian foreign minister questioned the ability of the United States to secure Palestinian national rights, "when it could not secure the existence of the PLO office in the United Nations."

Sharara said Israel could not fool anybody by claiming to seek peace. "None of the Israeli leaders is without a long list of not make peace in the area impossible," he said.

He also voiced his country's back-

Bahrain

Bahraini Foreign Minister Mohammad bin Mubarak Al Khalifa called on the Arab World to honour its collective responsibility towards important developments in the region, and warned from further complications that may arise from existing regional conflicts.

Referring to the situation in the occupied territories, Khalifa said that Palestinians in the occupied territories were exposed to an "unprecedented oppression, unwitnessed in the most racist and terrorist regimes in the world."

The foreign minister said the uprising had propelled the Palestine question towards a turning point in the course of the Palestinian struggle against occupation, increasing Palestinian people's self-confidence in their struggle until victory.

Khalifa described the Iran-Iraq war as "the epitome of tragedy plaguing the Islamic Nation." He said the continuation of the war was a violation of all principles and values dictated by religion. "All of us Muslims are responsible before God and our people to follow any course that may lead to a prompt end to this conflict."

Indonesia

The Indonesian delegate said that the Palestinian uprising was a threat to regional and international peace. Nana Sutrisna said the U.S. position towards the developments in the occupied territories was bound to "escalate the level of tension and obstruct efforts aimed at reaching a peaceful settlement."

Nana called on OIC member states to intensify efforts towards reaching a peaceful comprehensive settlement to the Palestine problem through convening an international peace conference.

North Yemen

North Yemeni Representative Mohammad Attar spoke about the situation in the occupied territories and the Gulf region, supporting efforts being made by the OIC for ending the Gulf conflict.

He said that his country supports efforts for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict through an international conference.

Nigeria

The head of Nigerian delegation expressed his country's support for an international conference as "the only feasible means for finding a just settlement for the Palestine question." He also attacked South Africa for its apartheid policies and called on the international community to impose sanctions on the racist regime there.

Niger

The Niger representative condemned Israeli measures in the occupied territories and said that such measures represent a violation of U.N. and international charters.

He also voiced his country's back-

ing and support of the Palestinian uprising and for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He condemned the U.S. decision to close PLO mission to the U.N.

The Niger official appealed to Iran and Iraq to end their war and endorse Resolution 598.

Sudan

Sudan's Issa Mustafa Salameh noted the Palestinian issue had entered the "stage of uprising against the Israeli occupation."

Despite OIC efforts, he added, the Iran-Iraq war is still going on and "we should exert all efforts to find a peaceful settlement to this war. He deplored last year's riots in Mecca and voiced his country's support for Saudi measures to preserve security and order during the pilgrimage."

Mali

The Mali delegate called for Islamic unity to face "dangers and threats."

He expressed his country's deep regret over last year's riots in Mecca and voiced his country's support for Saudi measures to preserve security and order during this year's pilgrimage.

Somalia

Somalia's delegate noted the conference was held at a very "critical period dominated by regional and international tensions worldwide." He hailed the Palestinian uprising and condemned Israel's brutal and inhuman measures.

He voiced support for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East.

The Iran-Iraq war, he said, benefited only the enemies of Islam.

Chad

The head of the Chad delegation voiced his country's condemnation of Israel's continued occupation of Arab lands and voiced support for an international conference to bring peace to the Middle East. He also supported Resolution 598 on the Gulf conflict. The delegate also condemned South Africa's racial discrimination policies.

Djibouti

The Djibouti delegate said the conference was held at a time when the Islamic Nation was facing "many problems and grave challenges which hinder Islamic solidarity."

He said the Palestinian problems were still the main issue of the Islamic Nation and all peace loving nations called for Islamic countries to support the Palestinian uprising and for all international efforts aimed at convening an international peace conference.

Lebanon

The Lebanese crisis, he said, was part of Israel's expansionist and aggressive schemes in Arab lands. He also expressed his country's concern over the Gulf war.

SPLA accepts Red Cross relief plan

NAIROBI (R) — The rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) has formally accepted proposals for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to undertake relief operations in war-torn southern Sudan, the ICRC said Wednesday.

The ICRC was still waiting for the Sudanese government to accept in writing its proposals for relief work in the drought-stricken area, Paul Mettler, the ICRC representative in Kenya, told a press briefing.

"The ICRC not long ago submitted a plan of action to the government in Khartoum as well as to the SPLA, an offer to resume its services to the victims in southern Sudan, wherever they are and whoever they may be," Mettler said.

"The reaction by both sides has been positive, but we asked both sides to signal their acceptance to us in a more formal way. The SPLA has done so and we are now waiting for Khartoum," he added.

Mettler said the ICRC plan provided for Red Cross officials to conduct a medical and nutritional survey of southern Sudan, where up to three million people are estimated to be suffering from food shortages.

The ICRC would then draw up a plan of action which would allow ICRC free movement between government and rebel-held territory to bring assistance to people in their home areas, he added.

Foreign relief officials in Khartoum said Tuesday that a senior Sudanese government official would travel to Geneva shortly to complete details for the ICRC relief plan with ICRC President Cornelio Sommaruga.

An estimated two million people have fled southern Sudan to escape the fighting, seeking food and refuge in the north of the country.

The SPLA has been fighting since 1983 to establish a secular state in Sudan and give black Christians and animists from the south a bigger say in central government.

Pro-Iranian cleric urges kidnappings

BEIRUT (R) — A Pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) cleric has called on his supporters to kidnap more Americans and accused U.N. peacekeeping troops in Lebanon of being a cover for U.S. spies.

In an interview with the Iranian-backed Al Wihda Al Islamiha weekly magazine, published and distributed in the Shi'ite Muslim suburbs and South Lebanon, Sheikh Subhi Tufaili was quoted as saying:

"If Muslims can hold the whole American tyrant regime they should do. They should not kidnap only one or two Americans because all the catastrophes that we suffered were caused by America."

Tufaili accused the nine-nation, 5,700-strong U.N. Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) of being a cover for American intelligence.

Gemayel revises political proposals

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel has sent Damascus a fresh set of proposals for solving the country's political impasse after Syria's allies in Lebanon rejected his earlier efforts.

Official sources said Wednesday an answer was expected next week from Damascus, Lebanon's main foreign broker, on its views about the new proposals submitted through U.S. diplomatic channels.

The United States, which fears that events in Lebanon could disrupt its peace drive in the Middle East, has been using its contacts with Syria to try to bring about inter-Lebanese reconciliation.

The independent Al Nahar newspaper Wednesday published a text of what it called "President Gemayel's March 7 paper" of new proposals which official sources described as "modified in words only, but not in principle."

The revised paper proposed the formation of a committee of cabinet members to draw up ideas within a set period of time on new reforms for abolishing confessionalism in Lebanon.

In his previous two proposals Gemayel suggested a 12-year period to end confessionalism in

the political system which gave the minority Christians more say in government.

Muslims, seeking to overturn the system, rejected Gemayel's earlier suggestions, saying it was not enough to achieve equal power sharing with the Christians who have dominated key state posts since the country's independence in 1943.

Lebanon's unwritten national covenant of 1943 shares out key posts among the main sects, stipulating the president should be a Maronite, the prime minister a Sunni Muslim and the speaker of parliament a Shi'ite.

Palace officials said U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon John Kelly visited Gemayel Tuesday and restated Washington's interest in current three-way negotiations aimed at paving the way for presidential elections in August.

"We have not reached a blocked wall with Damascus and contacts are still underway, the sources quoted Kelly as saying.

Syria to reply to U.S.

(Continued from page 1)

bilateral negotiations and agreements."

Sharara rejected the notion that Peres might be willing to reach peace with the Arabs on the basis of a just and comprehensive settlement to the conflict. He said there had been "misguided efforts" to give the impression that "Shamir rejects while Peres accepts, while, in reality, Peres does not accept the idea of an independent Palestinian state or withdrawal to pre-67 borders or return of Jerusalem to the Arabs."

He said he intended to give the Palestinians any of their rights, he said. "How can anyone claim that Peres accepts while Shamir refuses?"

Sharara confirmed that Damascus had refused to receive American presidential envoy Philip Habib who visited the region earlier this week. But, Sharara said, the Syrian stand should not be taken as a rejection of dialogue with the U.S., since Damascus' refusal to receive the envoy came because it did not "trust him."

"Our position towards Habib is that he is not trustworthy," Sharara said, explaining that Syria had stopped dealing with Habib since Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Sharara said that contacts to improve Syria's relations with the PLO underway, but "until now, we cannot say this dialogue has brought concrete results." Syrian-PLO differences were not based on "personal grudges, but because of political stands adopted by some PLO leaders."

Sharara said Syria remained committed to strict adherence of its support for the Palestinian people and their rights.

"Syria has carried this burden and will continue to do so," Sharara said. "Our stand is that no bargaining over Palestinian rights."

Asked whether a recent speech by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad indicated that Damascus might be willing to accept bilateral negotiations and

agreements between some Arab states and Israel, Sharara said: "This is only one half of the statement."

"The other half is that how can Syria achieve a realistic plan for a peaceful and fair settlement of the Palestinian problem with guarantees for the Palestinian people's rights?"

Replying to questions on the Syrian role in Lebanon, Sharara said a solution would continue to elude the strife-torn country as long as "no common ground of understanding is reached among the various factions and no guarantees are provided for constitutional and political reform in the country." He decided to say whom Syria would support in the forthcoming presidential elections in Lebanon.

On the Iran-Iraq War, Sharara would only say that Syria was concerned over "the developments in the war and anxious to contain its spillovers."

Answering a Jordan Times question over his recent statement that Britain did not see eye to eye with the Arabs over peace efforts, Sharara said he did not join an Arab League delegation which visited the British capital as part of the Arab effort to seek international support for the Palestinian uprising since Syria does not have diplomatic relations with Britain. However, he said Syria received reports indicating that "Britain did not deal seriously with the Arab proposals carried by the committee."

However, France, he said, "gave constructive and positive viewpoints over the proposed international conference and Israeli withdrawal of occupied territories."

He added that both the Soviet Union and China shared identical views with the Arabs.

Asked about Syrian-Iraqi relations after the extraordinary Arab Summit held in Amman last November, Sharara said: "There are no (reconciliation) efforts now." However, he said Syria was refraining from "replying to the hostile media campaign from Baghdad."

Israeli army detains hundreds of Arabs

(Continued from page 1)

Wednesday.

"If the situation continues, it will have a significant impact on Israel's economy," she quoted Yacobi as telling Israeli economic writers.

In an underground leaflet circulated in Gaza, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) announced payments would be made to those who lost family members, property or jobs as a result of the clashes with Israeli soldiers.

King calls on Pakistan to resume Gulf peace efforts

(Continued from page 1)

concept of solidarity and provided a categorical example of it when it embraced the millions of refugees from among our Muslim Afghan brethren and provided them with shelter, and assistance to mitigate their plight, so that the people of Pakistan may be said, to quote the well-known verse in the Koran "to prefer (the fugitive) above themselves though poverty be their lot." We are fully confident, Mr. President, that you will help the present international effort aimed at bringing about a successful solution to the conflict in Afghanistan in a manner that will safeguard its independence and restore its peace and stability so that Afghanistan may resume once again its progress towards prosperity and to take its natural place amidst

the Islamic Nation.

In the light of the tragic conditions imposed on the occupied Arab territories by the practices of the Zionist occupation under the very noses of all those who constantly brandish the slogans of "freedom" and "human rights," I appeal to Your Excellency to employ your good offices and your special relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, to put an end to the bloodshed in the Iran-Iraq war, which has drained the two countries' human and natural resources, and weakened the Islamic community... Iran has left no venue for peace unexplored and no well-intentioned initiative unaccepted. But our brothers that rule in Tehran have blocked every avenue, contravened the decrees of Allah, and defied the will of the Ummah, in their insistence on ruinous policies and persistence in this section which has weakened the Muslims, threatened the stability and the security of the entire region, and opened the doors for foreign intervention.

"In view of this situation, I appeal again to your distinguished statesmanship, Mr. President, and to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, to give this matter the utmost attention it deserves, and to resume your good efforts to persuade the Islamic Republic of Iran to respond favourably to the peace efforts, to abide by the will of the Ummah, and to accept Security Council Resolution 598 as the minimum basis for the process of a historic reconciliation between those two Muslim countries, which are linked together by common faith, neighbourhood, and the intertwined mutual interests of their respective peoples. Clearly, what is required is not putting an end to the war of cities and the attacks on oil tankers in the Gulf, but putting an end to the war itself on the basis of good neighbourly relations. This is what the Arab leaders have unanimously agreed upon in their extraordinary summit held in Amman last November."

President Zia spoke at the outset of the banquet, welcoming Their Majes-

ties King and Queen and the delegation accompanying them. Zia underlined Pakistan's support for the Palestine cause and Jordan's endeavours for convening an international Middle East peace conference.

Pakistan, he said, supports a peace settlement which can guarantee total Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem, and supports the right of the Palestinian people's right in their land. Zia also voiced Pakistan's support for efforts being made to end the Gulf conflict and called on various parties to intensify efforts to achieve that goal.

On Wednesday King Hussein joined Pakistani leaders to review a military parade celebrating Pakistan's National Day.

The King and Queen arrived in Islamabad Tuesday.

Hundreds of schoolchildren chanted "Long live King Hussein" and "Long live Pakistan-Jordan friendship" and a 21-gun salute boomed out when they arrived.

Pakistan: Moscow should not set terms

(Continued from page 1)

his country's delegation to the conference of Islamic foreign ministers in Amman, Pakistan's acceptance of the Soviet offer in Geneva will herald "a bloody civil war" in Afghanistan.

Burden on Pakistan

Haq said: "We are spending \$1 million a day for their national existence... \$350 to \$400 million a year out of our own resources and Pakistan is a poor country. We are at the same time faced with the situation where those Afghan refugees are cut down, most of them land frozen (sic) — livestock is disappearing. This could be a real physical burden for Pakistan, on opposition parties and everybody in the country."

"It should be guaranteed that a settlement should be negotiated to return refugees to their homeland. It should be guaranteed by the U.N. and the international community to stop the bloodshed we had for eight years," he said.

"I realise there is an anxiety on the part of the Mujahadeen that towards the end when the world sits together the negotiating table, their legitimate aspirations, their struggle, will be compromised or bargained away in the framework of global strategy," he said.

"We are not prepared at this late stage after we have taken up this issue to bargain away or compromise on the rights and aspirations of the Mujahadeen and the Afghan people," he said.

Stated on Afghan government in reply to a question on the Mujahadeen's call on Moscow for direct talks, Haq said: "The response

(from Moscow) should be to the Mujahadeen, not Pakistan. We have great admiration for the role they played. They are the real heroes of Afghanistan. They have their aspirations, the desire, their aspirations to the real will of the people to give whatever role they offer to the Mujahadeen."

"It is not up to us or anybody else to accept or reject any proposals," he said. "It is ultimately up to Afghan people to give Mujahadeen the role for future settlements."

On Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) recognition of the transitional government set up by the Mujahadeen, Haq said: "Our stand is clear. The organisation should recognise the government chosen by Afghan people, according to Geneva (conventions) and return of refugees to their homeland. These five million refugees have to choose their own government. A representative government could emerge only after the return of refugees and whole population of Afghanistan... then it could choose its government which the OIC believes in."

Haq also denied an indirect Iraqi allegation that it was helping the organised emigration of Iranian Jews to Israel via Pakistani territory.

"There is no such question that Pakistan will ever condone an arrangement whereby there will be a Jewish repatriation to Israel," Haq said.

"We are on record opposing... any such move which upsets the balance of population there and upsets the rights of the Palestinian people," he said.

Haq said his country, which borders Iran, should not be "misaligned" on the issue.

N. Cyprus says U.N. plan 'bottom line'

(Continued from page 1)

"For us, the situation is simple: A solution based on the U.N. plan and on political equality between Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots," Atakol said. "It is either this or two separate states. We want it to be left alone to live in peace."

Atakol reaffirmed that the Turkish-Cypriots would only accept guarantees from Turkey for the implementation of any agreement that might be reached.

The foreign minister of the self-styled republic dismissed Vassiliou's recent announcement of a "peace offensive" and calls for direct talks with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. "If Mr. Vassiliou wants to solve the problem, he should talk to our president, Rauf Denktaş, and not with an outside party," he said. "The problem is between the Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots and only negotiations between the two parties could lead to a settlement."

Atakol welcomed the recent improvement in relations between Turkey and Greece which almost went to war last year over the Aegean Sea. He expressed hope that "the positive atmosphere in Davos and Brussels (where Ozal and Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu met and launched the reconciliation) will extend to Cyprus."

Replying to other questions, Atakol said:

Baghdad hit

(Continued from page 1)

at Tehran's Kharg Island oil terminal in the northern Gulf.

Iran renewed charges Wednesday that Iraq used chemical arms in territory seized by Iranian forces.

Iran claims at least 5,000 Kurds were killed by poison gases which it says Iraq used against Halabja and neighbouring villages after Iranian forces seized the area.

Iraq's Ambassador in London Mohammad Al Mashat told British television that Iran, not Iraq, had bombed the Halabja area. Iraq has denied previous charges that it used chemical weapons.

In Tehran, military spokesman Kamal Kharrazi told a news conference Iran might retaliate with chemical weapons

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AMMAN JORDAN

U.N. survey shows slow growth in economies of USSR, East Europe

GENEVA (R) — Soviet Bloc economies, after expanding strongly in 1986, slowed down last year due mainly to a fall in farm output, weak demand for exports and lagging efficiency, United Nations economists said Wednesday.

The annual economic survey for 1987-88 by the secretariat of the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) said the Soviet economy grew by 2.3 per cent in 1987, compared with 4.1 per cent in the previous year.

Performances varied among its six East European partners — Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland and Romania — but growth for this group as a whole dropped to 3.2 per cent from 4.6 per cent in 1986.

Bad weather considerably damaged crops in 1987 and, although farm production rose slightly in the Soviet Union, it dropped by 0.6 per cent in the other communist states taken together.

Demand for exports fell, and efforts to improve economic efficiency failed to produce expected gains, the survey said.

"There was no success in reducing energy and raw material consumption per unit of output as projected. The engineering branch was mainly responsible for shortfalls in the production and delivery of equipment which had been expected to boost efficiency in other branches," the survey said.

The outlook for the communist bloc in 1988 envisaged an increase in growth of a little more than three per cent, it added.

All seven countries would need to make big efforts to catch up lost momentum in the remaining years of their respective 1986-

1990 five-year economic plans, and some plan targets might be already out of reach, it added.

The 34-nation ECE, which groups all European nations together with the United States and Canada, said East-West trade stagnated in 1987. Future prospects remained dull, although economic reforms in Soviet Bloc states were aimed at increasing export incentives, the survey said.

The Soviet Union, seeking to compensate for collapsed prices for its oil, and for U.S. dollar depreciation, cut Western imports by 10 per cent in the first nine months of 1987, while increasing exports to the West, mainly crude oil and natural gas, by five per cent — far short of a 21 per cent jump in 1986.

Moscow's East European partners increased Western exports by only one per cent, and also prolonged import restraints.

Total Soviet hard currency

debt rose to about \$25 billion at the end of 1987 from \$23 billion in 1986, while that of its six allies climbed to an estimated \$75 billion from \$65 billion. Depreciation of the dollar exchange rate was the main reason for the increases, the survey said.

Balance of payments constraints, imposed by stagnating exports, present Eastern decision makers with several problems. On the one hand, boosting import growth would cause a deterioration in the current account and require the acceptance of a higher level of indebtedness. On the other hand, restraints on imports are likely to hinder domestic economic growth and the modernisation drive.

"The latter is of key importance if the East is to improve its export capacity, reverse the decline in its international competitiveness, and move towards the goal of currency convertibility," the survey said.

UNCTAD urges scrapping old ships, curbing new orders to ease surplus

GENEVA (R) — A United Nations agency said Tuesday that old ships should be scrapped and that governments should spend less money subsidising new construction to end a 10-year-old shipping surplus.

That surplus has kept freight rates low. But for many nations, building and operating ships have been keystones of their development programmes.

The world has about one-fifth more ships than it needs, and about 30 per cent too much shipbuilding capacity, according to the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

"We are urging states to give

incentives for scrapping old vessels, and to study viability and feasibility before giving subsidies for new construction," UNCTAD Shipping Committee Chairman Hugo Sommerkamp Bernales of Peru said.

But reaching that agreement was a major compromise, said an UNCTAD spokesman. Delegates from 86 nations met for nine days before agreeing on this programme.

Industrialised nations had retreated from their earlier position that UNCTAD, the main U.N. body concerned with World economic development, had no mandate to discuss ship-

building problems, the spokesman said.

Developing nations compromised by dropping an earlier call for formal guidelines of concerted action to cut the shipping surplus, the spokesman said.

The UNCTAD agreement asks countries to consider offering incentives for scrapping ships and recommended restraint in ordering new ships without viable commercial prospects.

It said it "recognises the close interrelationship between shipping and shipbuilding developments, and urges governments, governmental institutions, banks, international and regional finan-

cial institutions and the shipbuilding industry to refrain from financing arrangements for ship purchases without studies concerning viable commercial employment prospects."

But a delegate from the International Chamber of Shipping, Chris Horrocks, told the session the UNCTAD assessment was unduly pessimistic.

"Not only have some freight rates improved and idle tonnage awaiting work decreased, but the availability of finance for new buildings and the very incautious and excessive subsidising of shipyards by governments is today greatly reduced," he added.

Mazda U.S. branch blasts American suppliers of parts

ANN ARBOR, Michigan (R) — The head of Mazda Motor Corp's U.S. subsidiary harshly criticised its American parts suppliers Tuesday, saying U.S.-made parts have three to five times more defects than their Japanese counterparts.

Osamu Nobuto, president of Mazda Motor Manufacturing USA Corp., told an auto industry conference here that about half the car parts Mazda uses to

assemble plants at its Flat Rock, Michigan, plant are American. He said he would like to raise that to 70 per cent.

"To the Japanese, defective parts are a kind of a shame and a sin. Americans believe it is inevitable to have defects — they take the attitude that if anything is wrong, we will replace it," he said at the International Automotive Industry Conference at the University of Michigan.

IMF advises South Korea to speed won's appreciation

SEOUL (AP) — An International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission predicts a huge current account surplus for South Korea and is suggesting the country accelerate the revaluation of the won against the U.S. dollar, sources said Wednesday.

The government sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the IMF team expected Korea to post a current account surplus of more than \$10 billion this year, higher than the \$7 billion envisaged by the government.

Officials at the finance ministry refused comment but said the

mission was to release a report on its consultations on the Korean economy before its departure in a week.

The sources said the mission also disagreed with the government on Korea's economic growth rate for this year, projecting 10 per cent growth in real terms.

The government economic management plan calls for eight per cent economic growth for the year.

Under an agreement with the United States, South Korea is committed to adjusting the value of the won through consultations with the IMF, which is seen as a neutral party.

Washington has been pressing Seoul to let the won appreciate rapidly, reportedly by as much as 15 per cent, and take other market measures to help reduce the U.S. trade deficit with Korea, which rose to nearly \$10 billion last year.

Officials of Arab Mining Company, IDB hold talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab Mining Company Director General Thabet Al Taher met here Wednesday with Islamic Development Bank President Ahmad Ali to discuss cooperation between the bank and the company.

The company serves as a technical advisor to the bank in mining projects being implemented in Arab and Islamic countries.

Both the bank and the company have capital investments in several industrial and mining schemes among which are the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company and the Arab Potash Company near the southern tip of the Dead Sea.

Seminars in Zarqa review banking, agricultural policies

ZARQA (Petra) — A seminar was held here Wednesday to discuss loans given by banks to finance purchases of real estate and housing projects.

Delegates discussed relations between the banks and the commercial sector and means of offering credit facilities for the both aforementioned purposes.

Taking part in the seminar were the president and members of the Zarqa Chamber of Commerce, the regional director of the Housing Bank in Zarqa and other officials.

A seminar on agricultural development was also held in Zarqa Wednesday.

Participants, who included agricultural engineers, officials and specialists concerned with the development of Zarqa River, discussed agricultural patterns systems which aim to facilitate marketing of Jordanian crops.

Egyptian bankers to visit Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation from Egyptian banks is due here in the coming month to seek investments in major Egyptian projects and to orient Egyptian workers here on incentives and privileges offered by the Egyptian government to foreign capital investments in Egypt.

The Egyptian delegation will be meeting with Jordanian businessmen to discuss investments and economic cooperation.

Tabbaa meets ICTD director

AMMAN (Petra) — Industry, Trade and Supply Minister Hamdi Tabbaa met in his office Wednesday with Idris Alawi, the director of the Islamic Centre for Trade and Development (ICTD).

They discussed matters related to the Islamic trade exhibition which will be set up in Cairo in October, with the participation of Jordan and other Islamic countries.

Meeting in Amman

The two officials discussed means of promoting the sale of Islamic countries' products and the steps to be taken for a meeting which will hold next year in Amman to discuss this subject.

Matters related to the unification of custom tariffs and the removal of custom barriers among Islamic countries were also discussed at the meeting.

Nickel prices hit record high

LONDON (R) — Nickel prices jumped \$400 a tonne to a record \$19,200 in London Wednesday, as stainless steel makers continued to snap up whatever metal they could find, traders said.

This heavy-buying has boosted the prices of other anti-corrosion metals such as chrome and molybdenum, also used to make steel alloys.

Zinc prices shoot up

European producers of zinc, used to make galvanised steel among other processes, raised prices by \$50 to \$970 a tonne Wednesday. That is the highest European producer price since July, 1984.

Turkey hopes to pump water to Arab states

BAHRAIN (R) — An ambitious project to pump drinking water from Turkey to the Middle East and Gulf is drawing positive responses from Arab states, a senior Turkish official said Tuesday.

But the official added that on top of the interest, government decisions were needed to get the project started.

The project, dubbed the "peace pipeline," aims to pump six million cubic metres of water daily from Turkey by pipelines to Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

A group of Turkish officials are touring Gulf states to promote the project and encourage a full feasibility study.

"In the countries we visited so far, the officials expressed great interest and I am very hopeful for the future of the project," Naci Utkan, deputy director general of economic affairs at the Turkish foreign ministry told Reuters.

He said that Turkey had contacted Syria, Jordan, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain so far this year and the group would also travel to Qatar, Oman and Saudi Arabia.

"Turkey feels that if the coun-

tries in the region are linked with economic ties like this pipeline, this would help promote peace as well as boosting economic growth and welfare," Utkan said.

"Turkey is committed to the project, but all depends on the political decisions at government level in these countries."

The project, first mooted in 1986, involves pumping water from the southern Turkish rivers of Seyhan and Ceyhan with two pipelines — one 2,700 kilometres long to the west coast of Saudi Arabia and another 3,900 kilometres to Oman.

Construction is estimated to take eight to 10 years and officials have quoted the cost at up to \$21 billion.

Utkan said with the initial approval of all states, a full feasibility study would be conducted by the U.S. Brown and Root Company to determine technical details and the price.

"Financing of the project would be discussed after the feasibility study is conducted. A consortium of states and financial institutions is necessary to tackle such a huge project," he said.

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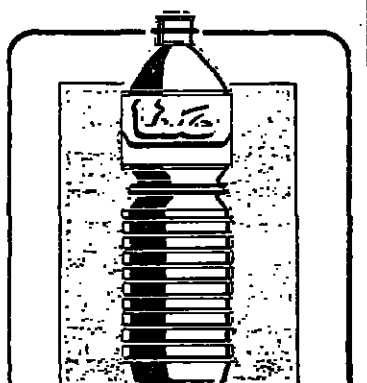
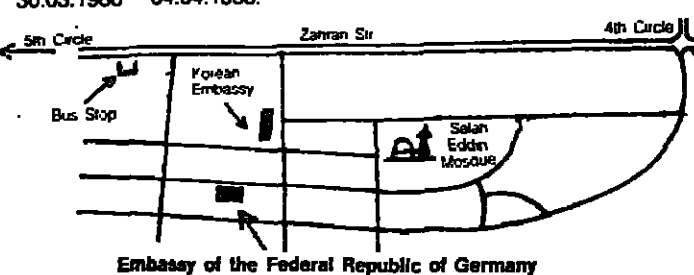
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U.S. threatens new moves aimed at ousting Noriega

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States is holding out the threat of more economic sanctions to help oust Panamanian military strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega as a general strike grips the strategic Central American nation.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater stressed to reporters Tuesday that no new decisions were pending on tightening the U.S. financial squeeze on Panama as he hailed a strike that has virtually shut down the country's economy.

But he was also at pains to point out that Washington had more economic weapons in its arsenal, which he would not reveal, to get rid of a man indicted in two U.S. courts on drug-running charges.

"We continue to consider trade sanctions and other options," he said after brusquely dismissing Noriega's conditional offer to retire as head of the Panamanian Defence Force (PDF).

"Such a step would leave Noriega in actual control of the Panamanian Defence Forces," Fitzwater said.

'Fox out of the hen house'

"The proposal is like getting the fox out of the hen house, then giving him quarters next door," he added.

U.S. officials, who asked not to be identified, said Washington

still believed the only solution to the Panamanian crisis was for Noriega to leave the country and that it was only a question of time before he did so.

The officials said Washington was exerting diplomatic pressure on other countries not to extend loans to the Noriega regime, strapped for cash because of a U.S. clamp on the flow of dollars Panama uses as its national currency.

In addition to its economic squeeze, Washington also appears to be encouraging Noriega's junior officers to oust him. Fitzwater Tuesday repeated that U.S. relations with the defence force would be fine once Noriega left.

He did not answer directly when asked if Washington was encouraging another coup attempt in Panama. "We want to make it clear that our disengagement with Noriega does not extend to the institution," of the PDF was all he would say.

According to a participant in an abortive coup against Noriega last week, the Panamanian leader

has gone to extraordinary lengths to undercut the U.S. financial squeeze he says is part of a Washington-engineered plot to renege on its treaty commitment to hand over control of the Panama Canal at the end of 1990.

Major Augusto Villalaz told a Washington news conference he flew to Cuba two weeks ago on Noriega's orders to pick up a Cuban arms shipment along with \$50 million in cash from Libya.

After waiting several hours, he said he was ordered to return to Panama without the money.

Inducement

In another development, the Associated Press reported that officials in Washington said the U.S. government, as an inducement to Noriega to leave his homeland, offered to fly him into exile and to allow family and friends to accompany him.

The proposal was made last week when Noriega met with two State Department envoys who encouraged him to step down as commander of Panama's Defence Forces and to accept a Spanish offer of political exile, the officials, who asked not to be named, said Tuesday.

But Noriega told the envoys he was not willing to accept any arrangement that involves his departure from Panama.

Sandinista concession helps peace talks

SAPOA, Nicaragua (Agencies) — Nicaragua's Sandinista government and U.S.-backed contra rebels were set to move into their third day of talks Wednesday after prospects for a ceasefire were brightened by a key government concession.

The Sandinista delegation offered to free political prisoners in proportion to the number of rebels who lay down their arms and return to civilian life, sources close to the negotiations said after Tuesday's session.

The offer added to the conciliatory attitude taken by both sides after they agreed to call a truce to hostilities Monday while the talks continue in this remote village on the Costa Rican border 140 kilometres south of Managua. "Today was a fruitful day, and I hope tomorrow will be even better," contra leader Adolfo Calero told a news conference after Tuesday's talks.

However, deep-seated mutual distrust appeared to be keeping the two sides far from a long-term agreement. Sandinista officials privately expressed concern that the contra might agree to an initial truce to give them time to recharge their forces after a recent Sandinista offensive along the Honduran border.

Contra officials said they were wary of Sandinista reconciliation proposals that might actually be aimed at engineering the rebels' wholesale surrender.

Reagan 'souring peace prospects'

Nicaraguan Defence Minister Humberto Ortega, leading the Sandinista negotiating team, accused President Ronald Reagan of souring peace prospects with his appeals for renewed contra aid and said new funding would "only contribute to the most reactionary sectors that don't want peace."

The Sandinista concession on political prisoners appeared to mark a major advance in the talks, as the government had previously agreed to free the estimated 3,300 prisoners, many of them battle-hardened contras, only after the war was over.

The government had also previously insisted that any exiled rebel leaders accept a government offer of amnesty before they could come home.

"These are major steps forward," said an adviser to the Sandinista delegation.

There was no immediate response from the contra forces, but Calero described Tuesday's meeting as "frank, direct and courteous."

Renewed contra aid push

In Washington, Reagan has sought to revive his stalled effort to aid the Nicaraguan contras and said congressional Democrats will be to blame if the supply-starved rebels fade from existence.

In an hour-long meeting on Capitol Hill Tuesday, Reagan appealed to Republican members of the House of Representatives to unite behind a new effort to push through Congress some kind of help for the contras, whose last U.S. aid ran out Feb. 29.

Poll picks Dukakis over Bush

WASHINGTON (R) — Democrat Michael Dukakis would be elected U.S. president over Republican Vice-President George Bush if the election were held now, according to a Washington Post-ABC News public opinion poll.

But while favouring Massachusetts Governor Dukakis now, the voters surveyed for the poll said they still believed a Republican would win when the election was actually held on Nov. 8, the Washington Post said Wednesday.

Every so, it said, the poll suggested for the first time the possibility of a Democratic presidential victory.

The poll followed other surveys showing Dukakis ahead of Bush in Michigan and New York.

The three polls indicated a significant shift from those two



Michael Dukakis

weeks ago that showed Bush well ahead of all other candidates following his wins in 16 of the 17 state primaries held on "Super Tuesday," March 8. The Washington Post said the new poll indicated Dukakis

would be elected president over Bush with 50 per cent of the vote to Bush's 45 per cent if the election were held now.

ABC had said earlier the poll gave Dukakis a narrow 49-48 per cent lead. There was no immediate explanation why the two news organisations got different figures from the same poll.

The newspaper said three of every five voters surveyed believed a Republican would be elected president on Nov. 8, even though many of them said they would vote for Dukakis rather than Bush if the election were held now.

Primary votes for the delegate-rich states of New Jersey and California are the last big events before Democratic delegates nominate their presidential candidate at a convention in Atlanta in July.

Soviet republics call for end to territorial dispute

MOSCOW (AP) — The Kremlin lined up governments throughout the country Tuesday in a call to end ethnic strife in two Soviet republics, turning up pressure to halt a territorial dispute that has claimed at least 32 lives.

The TASS news agency said the presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, the nation's largest republic, and equivalent bodies in the Ukraine, Byelorussia, Georgia and Uzbekistan called on the national parliament to take firm action.

The move came amid increasingly negative coverage in the official press of a campaign being waged by Armenian activists to annex the predominantly Armenian Nagorno-Karabakh region, which is part of neighbouring Azerbaijan, and the reported arrest of a leading Armenian nationalist.

Tamara Grigoryants, wife of Armenian-born dissident Sergei Grigoryants, said in a telephone interview that Paryur Arikyan was arrested Tuesday evening by three policemen in central Moscow after meeting with a Western television journalist.

She said Arikyan was accused of illegally crossing the street, and that he informed her of his arrest by calling from a pay telephone as the policemen stood by. Arikyan said Saturday he had travelled clandestinely to Moscow after his passport was confiscated in Armenia.

The government newspaper Izvestia Tuesday criticised Armenian activists whom it said gathered almost 4,000 people for a meeting in Yerevan on March 19 to devise strategy to press their demands. A day earlier the Communist Party newspaper Pravda charged the Armenians' campaign has a "clear anti-socialist spirit."

Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennady I. Gerasimov told a regular news briefing that protests continued in Armenia Sunday and Monday. A nationalist source said Armenians would gather again in their capital of Yerevan on March 26 to decide whether to call a general strike.

Arikyan once headed an underground Armenian nationalist group called the National Unification Party, and was jailed for 17 years beginning in 1969 for his political activities.

He said Armenian activists in Yerevan claim 78 people were killed in Sumgait. Refusal by central authorities to unite Nagorno-Karabakh would not stop the unrest, he told the news conference. "I think a worse tragedy than Sumgait awaits us," he said.

Burma fire kills 113

RANGOON (R) — A fire devastated the remote northern Burmese hill town of Lashio, killing 113 people and making more than 20,000 homeless as it swept through a jumble of wooden houses.

Rangoon radio said 64 people were injured in the three-hour blaze which started in a private kitchen last Sunday afternoon. Burmese officials said it was the worst single fire accident in the country's history.

The radio report, Tuesday night, was the first official disclosure of the tragedy. There were no immediate independent reports from the town, which lies in inaccessible forested hills where anti-government guerrillas operate and which is rarely visited by outsiders.

The radio said the fire started in the kitchen of a Chinese national, rapidly spreading through three districts of the town and destroying more than 2,000 buildings, including two schools.

It said many people were trapped because of the speed with which the blaze moved through the tightly-packed houses. High fences and walls around many of the houses blocked escape routes.

The homeless were sheltered in schools and Buddhist monasteries, the radio reported.

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Gorbachev: extensive political reform ahead

MOSCOW (R) — A Communist Party conference in June is expected to work out extensive reform of the Soviet political system, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was quoted as saying Tuesday.

The Soviet news agency TASS quoted Gorbachev as saying in talks with Uruguayan President Julio Sanguinetti that his social and economic reform drive had to be made irrevocable through "democratisation from top to bottom" and the promotion of

openness in every way. "Not everything has yet been worked out," he said, according to TASS. "For instance, at the 19th party conference it will be necessary to busy ourselves with a far-reaching reconstruction of the political superstructure."

The conference, from June 28-30, will be attended by delegates from throughout the country in what Western analysts say is an attempt by Gorbachev to win grass-roots support for his reform drive, known as "perestroika."

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Still too tense

Gerasimov said the situation in Azerbaijan and Armenia still was too tense to allow foreign journalists to travel there.

Arikyan, chairman of an Armenian nationalist group called Alliance for National Determination, said the Pravda article was an indication that authorities would not agree to unite Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia, despite appeals from local Communist Party and government officials.

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U.S. Congress enacts civil rights bill over veto

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supporters of a civil rights bill enacted over President Ronald Reagan's veto said it will help cure "an epidemic of discrimination" that followed a 1984 Supreme Court decision limiting federal protection for many groups.

"Discrimination in federally funded institutions is occurring at accelerated rates," Congressman Don Edwards, an opposition Democrat, said Tuesday as the House of Representatives joined the Senate in overriding Reagan's

veto of the Civil Rights Restoration Act.

Congress was troubled for four years over how to handle the high court ruling that only specific programmes or activities receiving federal aid had to comply with four major civil rights laws.

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U.S. military exercises to wind down

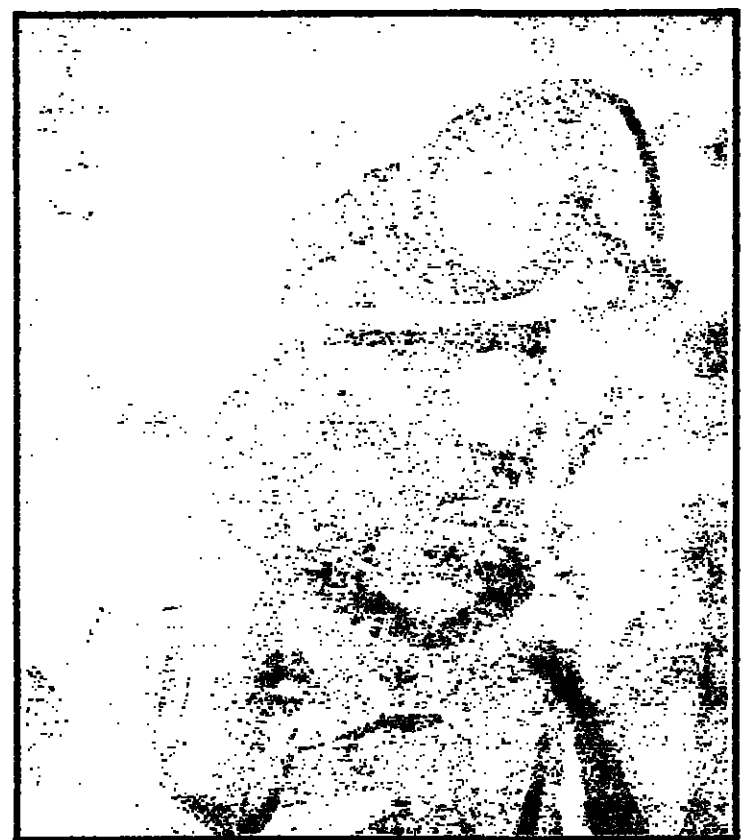
TEGUCIGALPA (R) — U.S. war games in Honduras will start winding down at the weekend, a U.S. embassy spokesman said Tuesday.

The spokesman and Honduran officials could not confirm a report on U.S. television that President Reagan told Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo by telephone the six-day-old "Golden Pheasant" exercise would be phased out beginning at the weekend.

But he said it was safe to assume they would be winding down significantly during the weekend.

The American troops continued war games at four locations, two of them close to the Nicaraguan border.

Azcona told reporters earlier in the day he did not know when the exercise, which has come under fire from opposition parties, would end but he believed it would be soon.



A U.S. serviceman prior to his departure for military exercises in Honduras

Gunman charged in Belfast

BELFAST (AP) — A Protestant gunman who attacked an Irish Republican Army (IRA) funeral was charged Tuesday with murdering six Roman Catholics and declared he was on a lone mission of revenge against the IRA, prosecutors said.

Michael Stone, 33, brought to court under heavy guard, told police his "military operation" was in retaliation for a string of IRA attacks, including a 1984 attempt to assassinate British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at a hotel in Brighton, Eng-

land.

"I alone carried out this military operation as a retaliatory strike against Provisional Sinn Fein, the IRA, in response to the slaughter of innocents at La Mon, Darkley, Brighton and Enniskillen," Stone told police, listing attacks over a decade.

Stone stood silently in the dock through the 10-minute hearing while a police officer testified that he also told detectives: "I would state I am a dedicated freelance loyalist (Protestant) paramilitary. No surrender."

In Catholic West Belfast, where British authorities ordered a "massive murder investigation" after the killing of two British soldiers during another IRA funeral there Saturday, police threw up road blocks at main roads into the ghetto.

British soldiers, rifles at the ready, patrolled the streets. Police sources say up to 30 suspects have been identified from an army video taken from a helicopter and screened television footage of Saturday's funeral rampage.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Bangladesh students battle police

DHAKA (R) — Two students were shot dead and at least 100 people were injured when students fought police with bombs and rocks Tuesday in continued protests against strict monitoring during Bangladesh school examinations. Police said they opened fire to disperse students trying to burn down examination centres, killing two people and wounding about 50. At least 50 people, including some policemen, were injured in other battles as students attacked teachers and destroyed examination papers. "This is hell of a situation," said one official at the education ministry.

'Up to 50 guerrillas killed'

COLOMBO (R) — Up to 50 Tamil rebels have been killed in Sri Lanka in recent operations by Indian troops, a senior Indian military officer said in an interview published Wednesday. The state-run Daily News quoted Major-General A.S. Khalkar, deputy commander of Indian troops in Sri Lanka, as saying that the separatist guerrillas suffered heavy casualties in recent operations in Vavuniya in the north. "About 40 to 50 fighters were killed, many wounded and captured... in the raids," Khalkar said. About 5,000 Indian troops launched operations in Vavuniya and adjoining districts two weeks ago to hunt down and disarm the rebels.

Philippine cargo ship capsizes

TOKYO (R) — Twenty-one crewmen were feared dead after a Philippine cargo ship capsized off eastern Japan Tuesday night, marine officials said. One survivor was rescued after the 6,812-tonne Captain Trader capsized 3.5 kilometres off Shogama, about 300 kilometres north of Tokyo, a Maritime Safety Agency spokesman said. Twelve bodies had been recovered, he added, and patrol boats and helicopters were searching for the nine crew still missing.

UNITA reports killing 34 soldiers

LISBON (AP) — The Angolan rebel movement UNITA said Tuesday it had killed 34 government soldiers and captured arms in

two recent attacks in the north of Angola. UNITA, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, said in a statement distributed in Lisbon that two rebels were killed and six wounded in the actions. The rebels said they killed 12 soldiers Saturday when they attacked a military supply column north of the town of Makokola in northwestern Uige province. Rebels killed 22 soldiers in a clash in the northeastern province of Lunda, the statement said. No date was given for the fighting.

Sarney wins critical vote

BRASILIA (R) — Brazilian President Jose Sarney, often dismissed as a lame duck leader, won an important political victory in congress when legislators voted Tuesday to retain the country's strong executive presidency. The vote Tuesday was a major boost for Sarney and the most important political decision in Brazil since the end of the 1964-85 period of military rule. It also marked a serious setback for the majority Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB). Sarney had used all the political influence at his disposal to persuade the assembly to retain the country's presidential system, in force for all but a brief period of Brazil's 99 years as a republic. Advocates of a parliamentary system — with effective power in the hands of a prime minister — had argued that such a reform would strengthen democracy in Brazil.

Bukharin 'readmitted' to Soviet party

MOSCOW (R) — Nikolai Bukharin, a leading Bolshevik executed under Josef Stalin in the 1930s, has been posthumously readmitted to the Soviet Communist Party, East European sources said Tuesday. The sources told Reuters that Bukharin, Alexei Rykov and 18 other defendants shot after a 1938 show trial had been restored to good party standing by an administrative decision taken shortly after their legal rehabilitation early last month. "This is not special for Bukharin. All those rehabilitated with him have been readmitted to the party," the sources said. Soviet officials were not immediately available for comment. Bukharin, a top Bolshevik theorist, became Stalin's leading opponent in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Rykov, a member of the first government after the 1917 Bolshevik revolution, also fell foul of Stalin as the dictator launched his party purges.

Mitterrand declares war on the Right

By Alan Philips
Reuter

PARIS — France's Socialist President Francois Mitterrand, who destroyed the Communists as a major political force in France in the 1970s, set out Wednesday on a new crusade — to demolish the Gaullist Right.

Announcing his candidature for a second seven-year term Tuesday night, the 71-year-old Socialist president said he intended to save France from what he called "intolerant spirits and parties that want everything."

"If private interests, egoist by nature, dominate the country we risk tearing its social fabric," he said.

His declaration of war shocked his two main challengers, Gaullist Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and Centrist former prime minister Raymond Barre.

Several commentators saw Mitterrand, who has cultivated an avuncular image for the past two years, transformed back into the fiery opponent of General Charles de Gaulle of the 1960s.

"We expected a low-key Mitterrand," said Serge July, editor

of the independent Left-wing daily Liberation. "Instead we find a turbo-charged candidate."

Mitterrand, standing in his fourth presidential election, left no doubt he sees his only serious challenger as Chirac, dynamic leader of the Neo-Gaullist RPR (Rally for the Republic) Party.

He attacked the rightist programme put into effect by Chirac over the past two years — priva-

tising state-owned firms, building up France's armed forces and the liberalising job protection laws.

Political analysts say Mitterrand's strategy is clear: to build a centre-left constituency dedicated to keeping the 55-year-old prime minister out of the Elysee Palace.

Critics say Mitterrand wants to avenge the humiliation he suffered in March 1986, when Chirac's centre-right coalition defeated the Socialists in a general election.

This forced the president to take a back seat while a government headed by his adversary

undid the work of the Socialists over the previous five years.

Despite his loss of power, he has already built up a massive fund of popularity in the coming battle against Chirac. All opinion polls make him the winner in the election, to be held in two rounds on April 24 and May 8.

Mitterrand owes his strength to a decade-long power struggle with the Communists from which his Socialist Party emerged the dominant partner on the left.

If Mitterrand is reelected, he stands a good chance of demolishing the other pillar of French post-war politics — the Gaullist movement now headed by Chirac — and installing moderate Socialism as the natural party of government.

On Tuesday night, Mitterrand avoided pledging to name a Socialist as his prime minister if he is elected for a second mandate.

Analysts interpreted his remarks as indicating he would seek to woo Barre's centrist supporters if — as polls say is increasingly likely — the former prime minister is beaten.



Developing countries should quit smoking

GENEVA (R) — The World Health Organisation (WHO) Tuesday urged developing countries to join a campaign against tobacco which it said has already persuaded millions in industrialised nations to quit the smoking.

"The counter-attack against tobacco is now under way in the industrialised world," WHO Director-General Dr. Halfdan Mahler said in a press release. Mahler said 5.5 million people in Canada, 10 million in Britain and 40 million in the United States had already given up smoking. He added that the world tobacco industry is now aiming its sales at women, young people and developing nations as more men stop smoking and public opposition to the habit grows. He called on women's organisations to warn against "sexist advertising aimed specifically at women."

The WHO, a specialised agency of the United Nations, estimates that about 2.5 million people die every year from diseases related to smoking — lung cancer, chronic bronchitis, emphysema and heart ailments. It says the habit has spread widely in developing countries. The organisation has banned smoking at its Geneva headquarters, and has set next April 7 as the world's first "no tobacco day."

AIDS policy for workplace

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. government has laid down strict anti-discrimination policies to protect government employees with AIDS that may serve as a model for private firms and workers and state and local governments. The new rules prohibit discrimination against AIDS sufferers and allows them to work as long as they are able. The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) wrote the guidelines for all government agencies on handling employees with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

The rules covering three million non-military federal employees represent nearly a complete turnaround by the Reagan administration, AIDS activists say. "They seem to be very good guidelines," said Urvasi Vaid of the National Gay Rights Task Force, an American umbrella organisation of homosexual groups active in AIDS issues. "We are particularly pleased to see the emphasis placed on education and counselling co-workers," she said.

Cancer linked to family environment

NEW YORK (R) — A Danish study suggests that for some diseases, especially cancer, a family's environment is as important as genes in determining how long a person lives. The study, published in the March 24 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, concludes that deaths before the age of 50 due to certain infections or heart disease are strongly associated with genes. In contrast, deaths from cancer appear to be influenced more by the family environment, the study said, confirming previous research showing a strong correlation between environmental factors, such as smoking, and cancer.

Test-tube baby pioneer dies

CANTERBURY, England (R) — British test-tube baby pioneer Patrick Steptoe has died from cancer at the age of 74, his family announced Tuesday. Steptoe delivered the world